

**ROSA  
LUXEMBURG  
STIFTUNG  
BEIRUT OFFICE**  
مؤسسة روزا لوكسمبورغ مكتب بيروت

**Conference:**

**Social and Transformative justice in conflict and post-conflict settings –  
a comparative approach**

**Time:** 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> November 2018

**Place:** Smallville Hotel, Damascus Road - Museum District, POB 116-524, Beirut, Lebanon. Phone: +961 1 619 999, Website: <https://www.thsmallville.com/>

**Conference Room:** Smallville Hotel, on the "Rooftop Penthouse" (last floor); **Lunches** are served in the "Secret Garden", Ground floor

**Organized by:** Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung Beirut Office, Address: Benoit Barakat Street, Rahhal Building, 6<sup>th</sup> floor, Badaro, Beirut, Phone: +961 1 380 893

**Description of the conference:**

Based on the assumption that most conflicts are rooted in socio-economic causes that usually continue in the period during and after the conflict, we want to discuss the topics of social and transformative justice in contexts of conflict and post-conflict. The conference will deal with four main topics: a) Local Struggles for Social and Transformative Justice, b) „Shrinking Spaces“ for civil society in conflict and post-conflict c) The Economics of War/Post-War Economics and d) Civil Conflict Management. Our objective is to look at these topics comparatively. Therefore, we are inviting discussants and experts about regions as Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, East-Timor, Bosnia, Ruanda and Colombia.

**Objectives:**

- To look at enduring and selected struggles for social justice in settings of former and current contexts of conflict and violence.
- To connect the concept of transformative justice with social justice
- To re-consider relations between social (in-)justice/socio-economic crises and conflict
- To look at relations of economy and war/conflict
- To discuss different concepts of civil conflict resolution



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The conference will kick off with a keynote and continue for the next three days with panels on the four main topics as well as field visits inside Lebanon. Each panel will have a short input presentation and then discuss different case studies in the group.

**Method of the conference:**

The method of the four panels of the conference will follow the "open fishbowl method". This means that four chairs are arranged in the front. This is the fishbowl. The remaining chairs are arranged in a circles outside the fishbowl. The moderator and the presenters sit in the fishbowl, while the rest of the group sit on the chairs outside the fishbowl. Two chairs of the fishbowl are left empty. After the two short inputs (5-10 mns) participants start discussing the topic. The audience outside the fishbowl listens in to the discussion. In an open fishbowl, any member of the audience can, at any time, occupy the empty chair and join the fishbowl. When this happens, an existing member of the fishbowl must voluntarily leave the fishbowl and free a chair. The discussion continues with participants frequently entering and leaving the fishbowl.

Please note that we will have translations into Arabic and Spanish.

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**Conference Schedule:**

Day	Time	Activity	Inputs
Monday, November 12 <sup>th</sup>	entire day	<b>Arrivals</b>	
	8 pm	<b>Joint Dinner</b> at Onno Restaurant Badaro	
Tuesday, November 13 <sup>th</sup>	Morning and afternoon	<b>Free time</b>	
	5 - 5:15 pm	<b>Welcoming Words</b>	Miriam Younes
	5:15 - 6:30 pm	<b>Keynote 1:</b> War and Capitalism: The unspoken processes and results of the global war against terrorism	<u>Keynote Speaker:</u> Fawaz Traboulsi, <u>Discussants:</u> Igor Stiks and Ingar Solty <u>Moderation:</u> Diana Mokalled Presentation and Discussion
	From 7 pm	<b>Reception</b> with finger food and wine	
Wednesday, November 14 <sup>th</sup>	9 - 9:15 am	<b>Welcome and Introduction</b>	Boris Kanzleiter
	9:15 - 10:30 am	<b>Keynote 2:</b> Transitional Justice and social justice	<u>Keynote Speaker:</u> Erin Daly <u>Discussant:</u> Matthias Reuss <u>Moderation:</u> Johanna Bussemer Presentation and Discussion
	10:30 - 11 am	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
	11 am - 1 pm	<b>Panel 1:</b> Local Struggles for Social and Transformative Justice	<u>Input:</u> Waddad Halwani and Damir Arsenijevic <u>Moderation:</u> Eva Wuchold Open Fishbowlmethod
	1 pm - 2 pm	<b>Lunch Break</b>	
	2 pm - 4 pm	<b>Panel 2:</b> „Shrinking Spaces“ for civil society in conflict and post-conflict	<u>Input:</u> Layla Kiki and N.N. <u>Moderation:</u> Ivo Georgiev Open Fishbowlmethod
	4 - 4:15	<b>Coffee Break</b>	

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مؤسسة روزا لوكسمبورغ مكتب بيروت

	4:15 - 5 pm	<b>Concluding remarks</b> for day one	Armin Osmanovic
	7 pm	<b>Joint Dinner</b> at Bar Berlin, Furn El Chebbak	
<b>Thursday, November 15th</b>	9:30 - 10 am	<b>Morning Coffee</b>	
	10 - 12 am	<b>Panel 3:</b> The Economics of War/Post-War Economics	<u>Input:</u> Werner Ruf and Jamie Allinson <u>Moderation:</u> Ivesa Lübben Open Fishbowlmethod
	12 am - 1 pm	<b>Lunch Break</b>	
	1 - 3 pm	<b>Panel 4:</b> Civil Conflict Management	<u>Input:</u> Jan van Aken and Adriana Maria Benjumea Rua <u>Moderation:</u> Maria Oshana Open Fishbowlmethod
	3 - 3:15	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
	3:15 - 4 pm	<b>Concluding remarks</b> for the conference	Markus Bickel
	4:30 - 7 pm	<b>Political city tour</b> with Beirut Urban Tours	Marc Ghazali
	7 pm	<b>Joint Dinner</b> at Bab Sharqi	
<b>Friday, November 16th</b>	entire day	<b>Fieldtrip</b> to Tripoli	Mira Minkara
		<b>Departures</b>	

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### Panel Descriptions:

#### Panel 1: Local Struggles for Social and Transformative Justice

Input: Waddad Halwani and Damir Arsenijevic

Moderation: Eva Wuchold

Over the course of this panel we will compare different local contexts that offer examples of initiatives fighting for the implementation of social and transformative justice in conflict and post-conflict settings. We will have a look at examples that highlight the connection of social and transformative justice.

Possible question for this panel:

- What kind of initiatives for the implementation of social and transformative justice can be found?
- What kind of challenges do they face in conflict and post-conflict contexts?
- How do activists perceive the connection between social and transformative justice?

#### Panel 2: „Shrinking Spaces“ for civil society in conflict and post-conflict

Input: Anja Justen und Layla Mahmoud

Moderation: Armin Osmanovic

Panel 2 will look at the role of civil society in conflict and post-conflict settings. We seek to ask for possibilities for these actors in conflicts but also in peace processes in light of shrinking spaces. Shrinking spaces will be understood as legal, political, administrative and financial obstacles and limitations that complicate the work of civil society actors. The panel asks for approaches and strategies of these actors to act within these shrinking spaces.

Possible question for this panel:

- What are “shrinking spaces”? Who creates and shapes them?
- What role do “shrinking spaces” have in conflict and post-conflict settings?
- How do they affect civil society actors in conflict transformation and peace building?
- How do these actors act within “shrinking spaces”? Which approaches and strategies do they adopt?
- What role do external actors play?

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### **Panel 3: The Economics of War/Post-War Economics**

Input: Werner Ruf and Jamie Allinson

Moderation: Ivesa Lübben

The third panel's main focus will be on economic aspects of conflict and post-conflict environments – based on the notion that economics play a central role before, during and after a conflict where social and transformative justice is lacking. We will have a close look on socio-economic dynamics before the outbreak of a conflict as well as war economics (trade of weapon, exploitation of natural resources, price, increase and inflation) and post-conflict economics (reconstruction).

Possible questions for this panel:

- What kind of impact does socio-economic inequality have on the outbreak of armed conflicts?
- How are these inequalities perpetuated throughout the course of an armed conflict?
- How would you describe modern war economics? What examples can be found?
- In what way can socio-economic inequalities be put on the agenda of post-conflict negotiations?

### **Panel 4: Civil Conflict Management**

Input: Jan van Aken and Adriana Maria Benjumea Rua

Moderation: Maria Oshana

Traditionally, civil peace activism is perceived as one of the main tools of leftist peace policies. In the fourth panel of our workshop we will examine civil peace activism and question its inherent leftist qualities. In that way, we will combine civil peace activism with the concepts of social and transformative justice.

Possible questions of this panel:

- What kind of alternative civil answers to violent conflict exist?
- What is the relationship of escalation and de-escalation in civil peace activism?
- How would you describe a "civil", left position regarding contemporary armed conflicts and how would this position be ideally described?

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**List of Participants**

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