

CALL FOR PAPERS

Journal of Illicit Economies and Development (JIED)

Special issue topic “Urban Peace and Illicit Economies”

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This special issue aims to demystify the knowledge and practice about building peace and resolving violent conflict in cities, focusing specifically on the range of responses to illicit economies and associated violence and insecurities. By bringing together research from scholars and senior policy analysts across different disciplines and sectors, the special issues also aims to provide an intellectual foundation for an integrated approach for building peace in cities and for transforming illicit economies.

The special issue proposes the concept of ‘urban peace’ that emphasises policy response to urban violence, exclusion and illicit economies building on the principles of connectedness, proximity and trust between individuals, different segments of society, and divided urban spaces. These principles of urban peace contrast the emphasis on separation, distance, and enmity associated to securitized, zero-tolerance, or counter-terror approaches. ‘Urban peace’ also emphasises that more pragmatic approaches are necessary to provide leadership on reducing violence and exclusion and on expanding economic opportunities in cities. Such leadership must navigate a new strategic landscape characterized, on the one hand, by transforming policy spaces at the international and national levels as a result of the reaffirmation by states of a state-centred international order based on norms of national sovereignty and territorial integrity; and, on the other hand, new policy opportunities in a variety of ‘governscapes’ that recognize the de-facto distribution of power and authority within and across national borders and populations.

In the face of these strategic landscapes, the special issue has four specific objectives:

1. Strengthen the conceptual and empirical foundation on urban peace and the transformation of illicit urban economies by combining research from different disciplines and sectors.
2. Assess the performance of selected responses that aim to influence the behaviour of actors with stakes in illicit economies, violence, and exclusion.
3. Develop a shared understanding of the range of pragmatic responses for urban peace and inclusive economic opportunities; and
4. Develop a shared vocabulary to enable collaboration and partnership across disciplines and sectors to build more peaceful cities.

The JIED calls for original contributions with focused research and analysis covering the four objectives noted above. It call for two types of contributions

- **Research articles** focus on unpublished original research that makes a substantial contribution to knowledge and understanding to this JIED special issue. Length: 8,000 words (abstract 250 words).
- **Policy commentaries** cover commentary on novel policy interventions, or review interventions in the area of illicit markets and urban peace. Length: 3000 words.

If you are interested to respond to this call for papers, please submit a **Letter of Intent (LOI)** including the following information:

- Article type: __Research Article / __Policy Commentary
- Tentative title of article
- Name, affiliation and place of residence of authors(s)
- Detailed description of the manuscript (max. 500 words)

Deadline for submission of LOIs: 18 November 2019, COB. LOIs submitted after this deadline will not be considered. Decisions will be communicated by the end of November 2019. Accepted papers will be subject to the usual JIEP peer review processes. Once accepted, authors commit to produce a paper draft by 15 March 2020, and a final manuscript in [JIED house style](#) by 15 May 2020.

LOIs should be sent to Dr. Achim Wennmann, Senior Researcher, Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP) of the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, achim.wennmann@graduateinstitute.ch.