

## *Peace- and Conflict studies B papers*

### **Building Peace in Regions of War**

Lukas Jarvis - [lukasjarvis@gmail.com](mailto:lukasjarvis@gmail.com)

Wrote on Conflict Complexes and their effect on DDR, two subjects taught in the B-course.

### **Understanding the effect of transitional justice on social reintegration - a study on the complex equation between reconciliation and the demand for justice**

Agnes Torstensson - [agnestorstensson@hotmail.com](mailto:agnestorstensson@hotmail.com)

Wrote the B paper on ex-combatants social rehabilitation into transitional justice, and attempted to see if there was a difference between how retributive and restorative transitional justice affects social rehabilitation.

### **Can Education Reduce the Risk of Conflict?**

Jim Jormanainen - [jim\\_jormanainen@hotmail.com](mailto:jim_jormanainen@hotmail.com)

Focused on how secondary education affects the risk of conflict. There is a significant spread of sources on education and conflict, however the focus is mainly on primary education rather than secondary or tertiary.

### **Rational Elites as Causes to Genocide**

Ceci Enquist - [cecilia@enquist.eu](mailto:cecilia@enquist.eu)

Wrote the B paper on rational/greedy leaders/elites who cause genocides, and compared this to a series of established schools on the cause of genocides (regimes, ethnic polarization and civil war). Trigger warning on severe violence.

### **Macho Structures in Non-violent Organizations**

Marika McAlevey - [marikamcalevey@hotmail.com](mailto:marikamcalevey@hotmail.com)

Investigated whether non-violence organisation with macho structures experienced a greater risk of utilizing violent strategies at later stages than similar ones with more equal divisions of gender, or those with greater women participation.

### **Peacekeeping & Protection of Civilians - Is a robust mandate better?**

Johanna Mäkinen - amandajohanna.makinen@gmail.com

A qualitative study examining peacekeeping operations mandate in Sudan and Liberia, as well as how the two operations differed in their protection of civilians. My interest lay in whether/how UN peacekeeping operations are successful in their missions, and regarding civilians role in an armed conflict.

### **Female Members in Rebel Groups**

Lisa Bergsten - lisabergstens@gmail.com

I wrote about how gender equality in a state affected the amount of women members in a particular nationalist rebelgroup. I compared IRA in North Ireland and ETA in Spain.

### *Peace and Conflict studies - C papers*

#### **Classroom Reintegration**

Lukas Jarvis - lukasjarvis@gmail.com

My paper regarded focus on education as a part of Reintegration within (DDR) and whether greater focus causes better Reintegration. As of this I had realised that DDR and Education is the aspect of peace and development that I find the most interesting.

### **The Breakdown of Impartiality and Violence against Peacekeepers. A Comparative Study of the ECOMOG Interventions in Sierra Leone and Liberia**

William Cöster - william\_coster@hotmail.com

About impartiality in peacekeeping interventions and how this may affect the vulnerability of the peacekeepers.

Initially, I was interested in peacekeeping and non-UN interventions. Then during a literature review I found that there was a clear gap on the role of impartiality in the study of peacekeeping operations. Basically everyone in the field of study thought of impartiality as given for all modern peacekeeping interventions. However, this was clearly not the case when I examined different cases of interventions.

Additionally, violence against peacekeepers is a quite understudied and emerging subject so I developed this further and examined newly gathered data from the institution (which confirmed my hypothesis).

In sum, the main drivers behind the process of selecting my topic were:

1. Specific interest within peace and conflict studies (peacekeeping/non-UN interventions)
2. "New" knowledge and insights gained through a literature review.
3. Identification of a research gap.
4. Through discussions with my supervisor.

## **A 'Lost Generation' - Child Soldiers and Violence After War**

Elin Westerling - [elinwz@gmail.com](mailto:elinwz@gmail.com)

I wrote both my B- and C-thesis on the consequences of the recruitment of child soldiers (in contrast to the causes). I don't remember how I found the subject, but I think I was scrolling through a series of academic journals and checked the website [politicalviolenceataglance.org](http://politicalviolenceataglance.org). Either way, very exciting as I got to read up on how views on children/youth/adults varies, how violence is normalised, and the importance of children's voices in society. Rather difficult to research however, as the documentation of child soldiers is rather lacking.

## **Media Freedom: Opening Doors for Peace?**

Nathalie Larsson - [nathalie@kingscreek.de](mailto:nathalie@kingscreek.de)

I chose to write both my essays on media and news as I find it interesting and something lacking in the programme. At the same time I would like to work on something related, such as Unesco or Reporters Without Borders or a PR-firm. Therefore I thought this would be a good way to show that I've always been a little fascinated with the subject.

**Re-addressing Meso-level Determinants of Reintegration Success:  
Understanding the Effects of Female Combatants in Rebel Groups - A  
Comparative Case Study Based on Findings from Sub-Saharan Africa**

Agnes Torstensson - [agnestorstensson@hotmail.com](mailto:agnestorstensson@hotmail.com)

My paper was about on DDR and readjustment, but I wrote more on the importance of characteristics of rebel groups for said readjustment of previous combatants, and focused on the quantity of women in these groups.

**Peace on the expense of traditional family values?**

Louise Tegneborg - [louisee@live.se](mailto:louisee@live.se)

A frame-analysis of 'gender' within opposition to the inclusion of gender in the peace treaty between Colombias government and FARC-EP. So I focused on the opposition to the term gender part of the peace treaty, and how these opponents framed the term gender. (Because of my interest in understanding the reason behind this opposition). I got the inspo as I was in Colombia last summer at a peacebuilding course, as several Colombians mentioned this resistance which I had not heard of before. IThere was almost no mention of it in international media, which made it very interesting! I studied two Colombian newspapers in my analysis.

**Does Armed Conflict Affect Violence Against the LGBT Community?**

Jim Jormanainen - [jim\\_jormanainen@hotmail.com](mailto:jim_jormanainen@hotmail.com)

There is very little data on the subject so there is still plenty of work to be done in this field. However, a major problem is the lack of data.

**Amnesty as a Bargaining Tool**

Beatrice Schönning - [beatrice.schonning@gmail.com](mailto:beatrice.schonning@gmail.com)

Wrote my thesis on amnesty as a bargaining tool in peace negotiations. How and why governments offer amnesty to rebel groups, how this is registered within the rebel group (based on the bargaining theory) and how this is affected by what crime the amnesty concerns.

## **Local Ownership in Peacebuilding Processes**

Ceci Enquist - [cecilia@enquist.eu](mailto:cecilia@enquist.eu)

I wrote about 'Local Ownership' during peacebuilding processes, how many local aspects that are included and if this affects how long the peace lasts after the parties have signed the peace treaty. I read (all) peace treaties and coded these based on how 'local' they were and made some statistics based on this. I did not manage to use 'survival statistics' (as one should) since it was a little above my level, so there is still plenty of freedom to steal my idea and improve the statistics if you are a 'government studies'-expert!

## **Colombian Peace Agreement 2016**

Marika McAlevey - [marikamcalevey@hotmail.com](mailto:marikamcalevey@hotmail.com)

A twitter analysis of why the colombian people voted no regarding the suggested peace deal in 2016.

## **UNgendered peacekeepers, Gender inequality's effects on sexual exploitation and abuse**

Anton Ingstedt - [anton@ingstedt.se](mailto:anton@ingstedt.se)

In 2015 I wrote a quantitative thesis on how gender equality factors affect peacekeepers sexual abuse of local civilians.

## **The Youth and Protest Habits**

Simon Lidström - [simonlidstrom@hotmail.com](mailto:simonlidstrom@hotmail.com)

I wrote my thesis on the habits regarding protests amongst youth, who attends and who stays at home. I researched what groups protested, if it was rich/poor, religious/non-religious etc. I concocted my study through MFS in Beirut over the course of two months.

## **Freedom from Liability: A study of rebel financing through natural resources and its impact on sexual violence against civilians**

Herman Wieselgren - [herman.wieselgren@gmail.com](mailto:herman.wieselgren@gmail.com)

The underlying theory is that the rebel groups that finance their operations externally through the extraction of natural resources have less accountability towards the local civilian population, which in turn enables higher rates of sexual violence by the rebel group. I chose this subject since I found that the relationship between rebels and civilians has been insufficiently explored. Further I find that varying types of violence against civilians are extremely important to continue research on, since I believe the international community to bear responsibility to lessen the horrors that non-combatants are exposed to.

### **Sanctions as a tool for compliance: A quantitative study on violations of international human law and imposition of economic sanctions**

Johanna Mäkinen - [amandajohanna.makinen@gmail.com](mailto:amandajohanna.makinen@gmail.com)

After my B-thesis I studied the legal programme for three years before I wrote my C-thesis, so that's where I found my interest in international law. However you don't need to have studied it to write about IHL (International Humanitarian Law)! Everything comes from a peace perspective anyway. I was interested in different ways for third actors to intervene in a conflict, and the purpose was to see if varying IHL-crimes (torture, child soldiers etc) is met with the varying levels of sanctions. Another tip: don't be afraid to write quantitative, you feel like a total badass when you succeed!

### **Rebel Group Ideology and Violence Against HBTQI+**

Lisa Bergsten - [lisabergstens@gmail.com](mailto:lisabergstens@gmail.com)

I wrote on how rebel group ideologies affect their violence against members of the LGTBIQ+ community and compared IS with FSA in Syria.

### **Abstention in the Colombian Peace Referendum**

Ana Ekelund - [anaekelund@gmail.com](mailto:anaekelund@gmail.com)

The thesis undertook the issue of abstention in the Colombian peace referendum, and whether violence-caused mental health issues hindered people from participating in it. I chose this since I'm interested in issues of political participation in general and Colombia particularly.

*Development - C-uppsats*

## **Social Capital Among Volunteers - A case study on the collective action of international volunteers during Europe's refugee crisis**

*Emma Södergren* - emmaviolasw@gmail.com

Since the education is heavily theoretical it felt reasonable to write a theoretical thesis, where I focused on how one can use theories on social trust and social relations to understand how people from different countries move internationally in order to support communities in crisis to which they had no clear connection with. I myself both volunteered and worked professionally between 2015-2018, so it felt relevant to work on a case with which I myself was familiar with. The theory I picked because I found it interesting to research collective action and hope that the more we understand the triggers the more we can encourage and hone it. Therefore my main tip is to use both empirics and theory that interests you and that you are preferably already familiar with (since it will lessen the workload).

## **Girls' equal participation in education. Period.**

*Hedvig Schylander* - hedvig.schylander@gmail.com

Based on an independent (non MFS-sponsored) field study at a school in Southern India. I conducted qualitative interviews with girl students in middle-school regarding their thoughts on whether menstruation and menstrual stigmatisation affects their participation in their education.

I got the idea since I have always been interested in menstrual stigma in Sweden and abroad yet was bothered by how research on the subjective always talked ABOUT those experiencing menstruation rather than WITH them. I got the idea as I read a post on research about menstruation on my Facebook-feed.

## **In what way does democracy affect national climate change policy output?**

*Julia Johansson* - jh-johansson@gmail.com

I wrote my thesis within development studies on whether the degree of democracy affected how ambitious states climate policies are. It was a quantitative study where I used freedom house to determine the level of democracy and created my own index to compare climate policies. I thought of the subject by looking through articles that we have read during our

education for inspiration; this way I had a clear theoretic connection from the start and could save time by using much of the literature that we have already read.

### **The Capability of Cups - A comparative field study in Uganda investigating the impact of menstrual cups on women and girls' achieved capabilities**

Alice Castensson - [alice.castensson@gmail.com](mailto:alice.castensson@gmail.com)

I wrote my paper on how improved feminine hygiene products can affect women's opportunities and welfare. I ended up with this subject since I wanted to do a field study and was interested in issues regarding sexual and reproductive health and rights. I looked back at the A-courses to find fitting theories and books, and used Amartya Sen's capability approach. I found it easier to build the paper on something I had already read!

### **Climate Change Migration**

Angelica Johansson - [angelica.johansson.18@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:angelica.johansson.18@ucl.ac.uk)

I wrote my thesis in development studies regarding Climate Change migrations in Tuvalu. I conducted an MFS and looked at how Tuvaluan 'leaders' viewed the climate changes, and how they viewed the internal migrations. Further I compared this with how western media reported on climate change refugees. I used discourse theory as both theory and method.

### **Framing for Change - Effects of Message Framing on Attitudes Towards Personal- and Societal Climate Change Mitigation Efforts**

Johannes Widlund - [johanneswidlund@gmail.com](mailto:johanneswidlund@gmail.com)

I did a survey experiment about how different framings of climate change alters willingness to take personal action. So I had a bunch of questions about willingness to change diet, travel habits etc that were the same for all surveys, but one third had a short text describing it as a disaster/imminent doom, and one third a text that focused on it as a justice-question, the last third didn't have a text at all. Then I simply compared the difference in how people responded.

### **Unequal City Planning in Postcolonial Cities**

Helene Andersson - [helene.andersson95@gmail.com](mailto:helene.andersson95@gmail.com)



I wrote about how colonial city planning continues to maintain inequalities in former colonial cities to this day. I focused on Accra, the capital of Ghana. The paper is called 'Colonial urban Legacies: An analysis of socio-spatial structures in Accra, Ghana'.

I read an article in one of my courses I took during an exchange term on colonial city planning and found it fascinating and wanted to choose a city specifically to delve deeper into.

To find a theory or phenomenon that you find interesting and then choose a specific case (conflict, country, political movement etc) to look into can often be a good start. I tried to consider which articles I had found specifically interesting and then read more on the same subject or the literature referred to in said article to get inspiration.