



Schweizerische Friedensstiftung
Fondation suisse pour la paix
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Swiss Peace Foundation

Call for Papers

Third Academic Conference on International Mediation Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil 17-19 July 2017

The [Global South Unit for Mediation](#) (GSUM) at the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, [swisspeace](#) as an associated institute of the University of Basel and the [Centre for Mediation in Africa](#) (CMA) at the University of Pretoria are jointly organizing the third edition of the Academic Conference on International Mediation from 17-19 July 2017 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The [first edition](#) was hosted by CMA at the University of Pretoria in June 2015, and the [second edition](#) was hosted by swisspeace at the University of Basel in June 2016.

The Conference brings together academics and practitioners from different regions to allow for a better and continued exchange amongst them in the areas of international mediation and peace negotiations. The expected outcome is to enhance the practical relevance of research developed in these fields of knowledge and to contribute to more effective peace and mediation processes.

The Conference aims to explore the connections between different spheres of knowledge regarding international mediation and peace negotiations and to discuss how a more diverse and interdisciplinary approach to peace processes can contribute to bridging the several gaps between research and practice in this particular area.

Moreover, the conference intends to promote a critical reflection on the challenges that emerge from gender issues and from the diverse cultural realities of both the mediators/peace negotiators and the conflict environments. In this regard, the conference aims to focus on the learning curve of international mediators during the last twenty years – such as the UN, NGOs and regional organizations – which have attempted to take into account the historical experiences and the social, political and cultural particularities of conflict areas.

Proposals for papers are invited on the following themes:



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- 1) What are the possibilities and difficulties for bridging the gap between different concepts, values and norms from diverse cultural contexts within peace negotiations and processes?

- 2) What are the main challenges faced by international mediators/peace negotiators regarding gender issues and the cultural diversity of conflict environments? And, in this regard, what is the impact of international norms and documents?

- 3) How can concepts, theories and practices from other fields of knowledge contribute to a more complex and politicized reflection on peace processes and agreements?

Please submit your abstract of no more than 300 words to gsum@bricspolicycenter.org by **24 March 2017**. A notification of acceptance will be made at the latest on 10 April 2017. Full papers must be submitted by 18 June 2017.