

## Case Studies in Peacebuilding Competition

The Academy for International Conflict Management and Peacebuilding of the United States Institute of Peace and the Josef Korbel School of International Studies, the Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies and Georgia State University are pleased to announce a competition to develop case studies to support teaching, training and research in conflict prevention and management, conflict resolution and post-conflict reconstruction and reconciliation.

This competition aims to build a series of cases that illuminates current problems and challenges for practitioners engaged in conflict prevention and management, conflict resolution, and post-conflict reconstruction and reconciliation as well as for scholars studying peace and conflict.

The successful case study will focus on a conflict between countries or between parties within a specific country or region and will serve as a vehicle for discussion, engagement, analysis and reflection. The Case Studies in Peacebuilding competition will focus on the following areas:

- 1) ***Post-conflict rebuilding***, including
  - Social Reconstruction and Reconciliation
  - Humanitarian Relief and Meeting Basic Needs
  - Security in Post-Conflict Societies

Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver

- 2) ***Governance and conflict***, including
  - Institutions
  - Rule of law

Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver

- 3) ***Conflict prevention***, including
  - Violence prevention and structural prevention
  - Peacekeeping
  - Peacebuilding and conflict transformation
  - Preventive diplomacy

Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame

- 4) ***Economics and conflict***, including
  - Development and Peacebuilding
  - Costs of Conflict
  - Management of Natural Resources

Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame

- 5) ***Identity-based conflict and its resolution***, including  
Religion  
Ethnic conflict

Georgia State University

- 6) ***Third party roles***, including  
Leadership and decision-making as a third party  
Working with local partners  
Mediation, facilitation, and assistance to peace processes  
Cultural context and adaptability

Georgia State University

Each academic institution will be responsible for receiving and judging case study entries in two distinct areas as noted above.

The successful case study will, in most cases, incorporate the perspective of outside parties providing aid or relief or intervening in the conflict. Each of the participating universities will focus on case studies that focus on a particular regional area.

Guidelines:

Case Studies will be expected to include the following:

Introduction

The essential question to be discussed and a description of the problem to be analyzed and the key factors that contribute to the problem.

Background of the conflict

Narrative description of the chronology and sources of the conflict, including important factors and events.

Key Parties

Descriptive analysis of the key parties and their motivations and objectives.

Results

What was achieved in the area of focus (e.g., rule of law or mediation)? Did outside parties achieve their objectives? Why or why not? Were there any unintended consequences?

Conclusion: Lessons Learned

With the benefit of hindsight provided by the analysis of the case, what lessons does this case provide regarding the area of focus?

### Critical Questions

Each case study should include a series of critical questions designed to elicit thinking about how the case illustrates success or failure, trade-offs and risks, dilemmas of short-term needs versus long-term development, unintended consequences of actions and decisions, and what types of outsider actions were effective.

### Eligibility

Entries can come from individuals or teams, students or faculty (or a combination).

### Application, Selection and Awards

In the initial phase of the case study competition, applicants submit to the appropriate university sponsor a one-page proposal that outlines (a) the proposed case study and the critical questions to be addressed, and (b) qualifications of the applicant(s) (e.g., area of research, scholarly writing, on-the-ground experience, teaching background, or field study). Each university will designate a small panel to review the proposals. Based on this review, the host university will invite, in consultation with USIP, a select number of applicants to write the case study outlined in their proposal. The same panel will later review those case studies submitted for the competition. Each panel will select up to 10 case studies per panel, each of which will win an award of \$1000.

In the second phase of the competition, the winning case studies from each university-based competition will be submitted to USIP for a further review by a panel convened by USIP's Academy for International Conflict Management and Peacebuilding. This panel – which will include analysts and practitioners – will select up to 10 case studies for inclusion in the U.S. Institute of Peace Case Studies in Conflict Management and Peacebuilding series. These case studies will be publicized on the USIP web site and used in USIP Academy courses, and a second prize of \$1000 will be given to the winning case study author(s).

Prizes will be awarded for the case study, not for each individual who contributed to the case study.

### Deadlines and Key Dates

September 15, 2011	Case Study Competition Announced
October 15, 2011	Initial Proposals Due
November 1, 2011	Notification of those applicants to be asked to submit full case studies
December 1, 2011	Full Case Studies Due

January 15, 2012

Winners Announced

Length: Case studies cannot be longer than 5,000 words.

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Proposals due to the Josef Korbel School of International Studies should be sent to Professor Timothy Sisk

Timothy D. Sisk, Ph.D.  
Professor  
Josef Korbel School of International Studies  
University of Denver  
2199 S. University Blvd.  
Denver, CO 80121

[timothy.sisk@du.edu](mailto:timothy.sisk@du.edu)

Proposals due to the Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies should be sent to Professor George Lopez

George A. Lopez  
The Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, CSC  
Professor of Peace Studies  
Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies  
University of Notre Dame  
Notre Dame, Indiana, 46556

[George.A.Lopez.1@nd.edu](mailto:George.A.Lopez.1@nd.edu)

Proposals due to Georgia State University should be sent to Professor Carrie Manning

Dr. Carrie Manning  
Professor and Chair  
Department of Political Science  
PO Box 4069  
Georgia State University  
Atlanta, GA 30302-4069

[usipcompetition@gsu.edu](mailto:usipcompetition@gsu.edu)