PROGRAMME

BUILD PEACE 2025

Towards a Pluriverse of Peace

November
21-23

BARCELONA

ORGANIZED BY

BUILD UP

ICIP INTERNATIONAL CATALAN INSTITUTE FOR PEACE

WITH THE COLLABORATION OF

Generalitat de Catalunya

Catalunya Internacional

Ajuntament de Santa Coloma de Gramenet

Welcome to Build Peace 2025

Build Peace 2025 is the 12th annual conference exploring emergent challenges to peace in the digital era, and the innovations in peacebuilding that seek to address them.

This year's theme invites us to rethink what we talk about when we talk about peace. In a time marked by oppression, division and othering, inequality and a deep erosion of trust, how do we reclaim and give meaning to peace? How can we harness new possibilities to connect across difference, learn from one another's grounded experiences, and nurture interdependence?

The conference will explore these questions through three key sub-themes—each addressing a central dilemma in the peace and conflict field:

- **Between Polarization and Deliberation**
- **Between Deterrence and Nonviolence**
- **Between Erasure and Memory**

We invite you to engage with these tensions, question the assumptions behind them, and explore new entry points for building and redefining peace.

Build Peace 2025 is co-organized by **Build Up** and **ICIP (International Catalan Institute for Peace)**, in collaboration with the City Council of Santa Coloma de Gramenet, Catalonia Internacional and the Governement of Catalonia.

All plenary sessions and short talks will have interpretation in English, Spanish and Catalan.

All workshops are conducted in the language used in their title and description, with no interpretation offered.

LA CIBA
Passeig de Llorenç Serra, 64.
08921 Santa Coloma de Gramenet, Barcelona.

You can find more information on logistics **here**.

Day 1
Friday, November 21

08:00-09:00
Registration

09:00-09:30
Opening Session & Welcome

09:30-10:30
PANEL:
Pro-social Design to Make Spaces Deliberative Instead of Polarizing

What participatory and deliberative tools, methods and spaces can tackle rising affective and toxic polarization? How can polarized digital spaces become deliberative? We aim to explore where and how that shift happens, the role of alternative narratives and what approaches (technological or otherwise) can be used to include all voices in social and peace processes and movements.

Nadim Nashif
7amleh

Julia Kamin
Prosocial Design Network

Moderated by **Caleb Gichuhi**
Build Up

10:30-11:15
Coffee Break

11:15-12:30
SHORT TALKS:
Between Polarization and Deliberation

10'

Applying Prebunking to Build Resilience to Divisive Disinformation: Learning from Libya
Maurice Aaek
(BBC Media)

Listening with AI: Opportunities and Challenges of AI-Supported Sensemaking in Youth Consultations for Peace
Felix Kufus
(CMI - Martti Ahtisaari Peace Foundation)

Peacebuilder-AI Collaboration
Julie Hawke
(Build Up)

Bringing Digital Culture and Democratic Innovation Closer to the Nearby Territory
Mar Escarrabill
(Canòdrom - Ateneu d'Innovació Digital i Democràtica de Barcelona)

Mapping Polarized Narratives: New Tools for Deliberative Peacebuilding
Michelle Simon
(The What If)

Peacebuilding narratives: Data, Networks, and Technologies to Confront Polarization
Yesenia Camacho
(El Barómetro)

12:30-13:30
Lunch

Day 1
Friday, November 21

13:30-17:00
WORKSHOPS:
(includes 30-minute break)

3h

Del olvido a la memoria viva: Archivos como herramientas para la construcción de paz
Swisspeace tbc

Reclaiming the City: Feminist Urbanism as a Path to Peace
Red Dot Foundation Global tbc

Challenging Militarized AI: Feminist and Decolonial Perspectives to Resisting Technological Violence
Perú por el Desarme tbc

EU Policy Discussion: Changing Business Incentives of Social Media Platforms
Build Up

Imaging Peace: A Peace Photography Methods Workshop
Fotosynthesis tbc

Embodying Care: The Power of Pause
Humanity United

Beyond Right and Wrong: Cultivating Inner Ground for Dialogue
Empathie Initiative tbc

17:00-18:00
DIALOGUE:
How Do We Use Deliberative Tech to Discuss Polarizing Legislative Processes in Democracies?

Nil Homedes
Decidim

Nerima Wako-Ojiwa
Siasa Place

Moderated by **Mahmoud Bastati**
Build Up

Day 2
Saturday, November 22

09:00-10:00
DIALOGUE:
International Arms Race, Geopolitical Tensions, and Escalating Military Spending

A critical examination of the growing approach to rely on force as a solution to global challenges in a world that is becoming more multipolar and less multilateral. This dialogue will explore the prevailing narrative that security equates to military defense and offense, while highlighting if possible alternative approaches rooted in human security. How can current trends be countered by diplomacy, cooperation, and peacebuilding over militarization?

José Julio Rodríguez
Former Spanish Chief of the Defence

Sascha Romantsova
Centre for Civil Liberties

Moderated by **Kristian Herbolzheimer**
ICIP

10:00-10:45
Coffee Break

10:45-12:00
SHORT TALKS:
Between Deterrence and Nonviolence

10'

CyberPeace Builders: Stronger Together
Alexandru Lazar
(CyberPeace Institute)

Presenting the Global Campaign on Military Spending (GCOMS)
Antonella Di Matteo
(Centre Delàs d'Estudis per la Pau)

How a Team of Young People Is Using AI for Peace in the Sahel
Boukar Kanta Mahaman Laouali
(Innovateurs pour la Paix)

Strengthen the activation of cities to create new narratives about diversity
David Gualda Manzano
Ajuntament de Santa Coloma tbc

Confronting Erasure: How to Prevent Identity-Based Mass Violence in Cities
Rachel Locke
(VIP Lab) tbc

Tech for Trust: How Election Technologies Help Prevent Violence Before and After the Vote
Saeed Mohamed Osman
(National Electoral Comission, Somaliland)

Day 2
Saturday, November 22

12:00-13:00
WORKSHOPS:

1 h

Algunos aprendizajes desde la facilitación de diálogos complejos a nivel local
Berbari Lekua

Bridging Divides: How Syrian Youth Turned Conflict into Collaboration
Olive Branch tbc

Deliberation by Design for a Pluralistic Future: Leveraging Behavioral Insights and Open Innovation to Foster Trust and Consensus in Democratic Spaces
Fundación Corona

Fairtogether: Who is Watching? Feeling Safe in a Watched World
Act for Transformation geG tbc

Cyber Escape - OSINT and Governance
DreamSpace Technologies tbc

Justice That Heals
Daima Initiatives for Peace and Development tbc

Using Deliberative Tech in Highly Polarized Contexts
University of Notre Dame

13:00-14:00
Lunch

14:00-16:00
WORKSHOPS:

2 h

PeaceTech Founders Forum
University College / University of Waterloo

Deliberative Tools Are Taking Off — Let's Decide Where They Should Go!
Sparkable

Together Against Online Hate
Sharing Perspectives Foundation, Ichbinhier, FundiPau, University of Amsterdam, Build Up

Autoprotección civil pacífica en comunidades latinoamericanas. Alternativas a la seguridad militarizada
Masterpeace Cali tbc

From Survivors to Justice Reporters, Story Writers and Leaders: The Struggle to Preserve Women Conflict Victims' Memory – Lessons Learned from Nepal
GIZ (Civil Peace Service)

How the Body Understands Time Has Always Been (a ritual)
Independent tbc

Building Transnational Digital Archive Coalitions for Justice and Healing
Azadi Archive tbc

Writing as Resistance, Self-Reflection, and Healing
Resonance Network tbc

Day 2
Saturday, November 22

16:00-16:45
Coffee Break

16:45-17:45
CLOSING REFLECTION:
Dilemmas of a Tech Panopticon

New technologies are increasingly used to control public space through surveillance. At the same time, surveillance tools are being reclaimed to hold people to account. For example, Indigenous communities are using drones and other technologies to protect borders, prevent land grabbing, and bring cases before human rights courts. How can technology be harnessed as a tool for nonviolent civil defense in times of war, conflict, or authoritarian threat?

Bitaté Uru-eu-wau-wau
Earth Defender and President of Jupaú Association (Brazilian Amazon)

Ofelia Rivas
O'Odham leader and activist against US-Mexico border surveillance

Bruna dos Santos
Witness

Jack Isles
Border Forensics

Moderated by **Helena Puig Larrauri**
Build Up

Day 3
Sunday, November 23

09:00-10:00
PANEL:
Do We Remember Authoritarianism?

A conversation on the connection between how societies remember and reconcile with recent authoritarian regimes, and the current rise of the far right.

We'll reflect on tools and approaches used in reconciliation processes—such as truth commissions, amnesties, and public memory initiatives—and examine where they have (or have not) been implemented, and how that shapes people's relationship with the past today. Can these approaches foster coexistence? Are they useful for healing and learning from crisis? What types of implementation were used in the past—and how are they evolving now? Have these efforts made a difference, or have they been in vain?

Francisco Ferrándiz
Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas

Natascha Zupan
Berghof Foundation

Moderated by **Sílvia Plana**
ICIP

10:00-10:45
Coffee break

10:45-12:00
SHORT TALKS:
Between Erasure and Memory

10'

Digital Majority: Archiving the Work of Women in Digital Sphere
Ana Pejovic
(Pro Peace)

From Amnesty to Accountability: How ex-Combatants and Theater Makers Champion Justice in Lebanon
Christina Foerch Saab
(Fighters for Peace)

Dialogue – No Thanks! Addressing Polarization in a Trauma-Informed Way
Cordula Reimann
(Zwischentöne - Learning from Societal Crises)

Healing Collective Traumas: From Erasure to Memory – The Case of Women in the Conflict-Prone Zones of Northwestern Nigeria
Hauwa Mohammed Sani
(Ahmadu Bello University)

Movement Resource Center: Strengthening Grassroots Activism Through Connection and Civic Memory
Keshab Bhattarai
(Freedom Studio)

The Sudan Memory Project
Sara El-Nager
(The Sudan Memory Project)

Day 3
Sunday, November 23

12:00-13:00
WORKSHOPS:

1 h

LOVE-Squads: Collective Action Against Online Hate
LOVE-Storm / Federation for Civilian Based Defence tbc

Qué funciona (y qué no) para despolarizar en el ámbito educativo
Escola de Cultura de Pau

What's the Difference Between Good and Bad Conflict?
UC Berkeley tbc

Rethinking Peace and Security: Youth Innovation and AI Peacebuilding in Africa
UNDP tbc

Showcasing Safety-by-Design: A Proactive Approach to Countering Technology-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence (TFGBV) Targeting Women and Vulnerable Groups in Kenya and the Philippines' Digital Civic Spaces
IREX

Literature for Peacebuilding: Reimagining Unacknowledged Traumas and Cultivating Empathy in Palestine/Israel
Abdelmalek Essaadi University tbc

13:00-14:00
Lunch

14:00-16:00
WORKSHOPS:

2 h

Todos Vosotros = All Y'all: The Texan's Peacebuilding Kit
The Church Lab tbc

Deshacer la masculinidad militarista
Universitat de Lleida

Designing Deliberative Process: Where to Plug in Technology
University of Notre Dame

Where Are They? Using Open-Source Methods and New Technologies to Support the Search for Missing Persons
Violence & Transitional Justice Lab tbc

Seguridad Cotidiana feminista. Otra mirada a la seguridad
Corporacion CIASE tbc

Digital Cartography of Migrant Women's Actions for Peace: A Feminist-Decolonial Pedagogical Proposal
Geneva Graduate Institute

I Am My Father's Daughter: Preserving Memories to Prevent Intergenerational Trauma
Gender in Action Initiative tbc

Travel Show: A Hybrid Guided Walk Through the Divided Island of Cyprus
Independent Peace Activists tbc

Day 3
Sunday, November 23

16:00-16:45
Coffee Break

16:45-17:45
PANEL: From Archiving to Identity

How is identity shaped in polarized contexts? Who gets to tell the stories that define who we are? This session explores the link between identity, narrative, and power: how people are reclaiming, retelling, and reshaping their histories—and in doing so, their futures. We'll also look at how new technologies and creative methods are being used in archival practices to preserve memory and cultural heritage.

Archie Oclos
Independent artist

Milisuthando Bongela
Independent artist tbc

Hadi Khatib
Syrian Archive

Valiana Aguilar tbc
Colectivo Suumil Móokt'aan

Moderated by **Michaela Ledesma**
Build Up

17:45-18:15
CONFERENCE CLOSING

Join us as we close the conference and reflect on the key insights and connections that emerged over the past three days—and consider what we carry forward from here.

Art Installations
All Day

History of Casal de la Pau of Barcelona

Universitat de Lleida

Imaging Peace: Pluralising Our Images of Peace Through Localised Peace Photography

Imaging Peace

Loud Silence - Participatory Artwork

Stiftung Frauenkirche Dresden

San Luis Valley Colcha Embroidery: Mending Stories

San Luis Valley Colcha Embroidery Project tbc

The Dance Between Us

Dance to Power tbc

The Technology of Prayer: A Queer/Trans Poetic Offering

The Haven tbc

Bulding Bridges Through Music

Lindenbaum Festival Orchestra tbc

Border(line) Disorder: Addressing the Continuing Division in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Contact Zone tbc

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