

Geneva Peace Week 2022 - Peace is Possible

Call for Applications

31 October - 4 November 2022

Submission deadline: Wednesday 22 June 2022

Overview and Thematic Direction

The world is facing an ever-growing number of unprecedented challenges. Violent conflicts are increasingly prolonged and protracted. Most recently, the return of full-scale interstate war at the center of international relations impacts us at the global political, security, financial, socio-economic and psychological levels. The gap between rich and poor, between those governing and those governed, is getting wider and wider. A range of crises are demanding but still not receiving sufficient attention and action. There is an urgent need to mitigate the climate and environmental crisis. There is a burning requirement to prioritize global health and manage the continued detrimental impact of the pandemic. Dark technologies are amplifying and compounding negative centrifugal forces generated by private spaces outside of public and democratic reach. We witness global, regional, national and local breakdowns of trust - between countries, organizations, communities and individuals.

At the same time, civil society, international and non-governmental organizations propose solutions aimed at improving respect for human rights and social justice. Technology innovations are developed to serve humanitarian and peacebuilding efforts. Communities are getting stronger to counter the ecological breakdown. The mobilization of resources by different actors and individuals to build a more resilient and solidary world, proves that alternative narratives to the security and counter-terrorism discourse can exist and that peace is possible.

Building on these observations, the ninth edition of Geneva Peace Week (GPW) is proud to launch its call for applications on the overarching theme '**Peace is Possible**'. The focus will be on proposals on the existence of current initiatives and efforts, as well as lessons-learned, that demonstrate the positive outcomes of community building at the service of peace, human rights and the protection of the environment, especially in the current security context.

Geneva Peace Week is a leading annual forum in the international peacebuilding calendar, in which organizations in Geneva and their international partners come together to share knowledge and practice on a diverse range of topics relating to the promotion of peace across contexts and disciplines.

Geneva Peace Week 2022 will take place both **in-person and also online**. GPW will seek to create an increased number of spaces for physical, in-person meetings for professionals who are able to attend in Geneva (up to 15 sessions). Meanwhile, recognizing that GPW has reached new audiences, the forum will also prioritize the participation of attendees who are based in cities outside of Geneva (over 70% of participants in 2021). **Please read through this guidance note carefully to learn more about the thematic tracks for GPW22, the different ways in which organizations can participate, the application criteria, and how to apply.**

Geneva Peace Week is a flagship initiative of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform in collaboration with the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG), and the Platform's five partners – the Graduate Institute's Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP); the Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance (DCAF); the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP); Interpeace; and the Quaker United Nations Office, Geneva (QUNO). Geneva Peace Week is also supported by Switzerland.

Thematic Tracks

Geneva Peace Week 2022 will continue to build upon the thematic discussions that emerged in 2021, while creating spaces for contextualizing and discussing recent local and geopolitical developments, and how they impact the work of those working towards a more peaceful and just society globally. The thematic tracks for GPW22 have been developed and adjusted to build upon discussions from 2021, and to take them a step further. **The thematic tracks for GPW22 are:**

1. Confronting inequalities and advancing inclusion, peace, and SDG16
2. Moving beyond securitization: Risk management and new horizons for peacebuilding
3. The Power and Limits of Innovation in Peacebuilding
4. Containing the fallout: environmental challenges and opportunities for peace in a new age of insecurity

To view detailed descriptions of each thematic track, visit www.genevapeaceweek.ch

Submission Formats: Workshops & Digital Series

As every year, Geneva Peace Week 2022 will aim to enhance the quality of the programme and experience for peacebuilding practitioners, and to also maintain an inclusive space for dialogue on cross-cutting issues on peace. In 2022, there will be an opportunity to participate as an organizer of a Workshop or a Digital Series production. The Selection Committee will accept the highest quality of applications for approximately 25 workshops (up to 15 in-person), and 25 contributions to the adapted Digital Series. The thematic tracks will be the same for both Workshops and for the Digital Series. **Please read below carefully for more information on these formats.**

1. Workshops (Online and In-person)

- **Workshop Description:** These 90 minute sessions will take place online and in-person. They should be practitioner-led and facilitated with a high degree of interactivity, aimed at offering participants the opportunity to exchange and share knowledge, good practice, and peacebuilding skills to apply in their daily work. Information can be presented by speakers, however it is encouraged that input from speakers be no more than 50% of the session time (and preferably less). Selections will prioritize the most innovative and interactive workshops.
- **The application forms will be completed in a way that ensures that every workshop submission is online-ready**, but with the extra opportunity to indicate a) whether the organizer would be interested in running the workshop in person, b) why the workshop would be suitable for an in-person format and c) whether the organizer is able to take responsibility for ensuring that all speakers are available and present in Geneva. Only up to 15 in-person events will take place at GPW. This will be decided on a case-by-case basis with no guarantee.

2. Digital Series (View [Digital Series guidance note](#) for a full breakdown).

- **Digital Series Description:** This will feature contributions in which organizers develop their peacebuilding expertise, research, and stories into short, educational and digital formats (videos, podcasts, and other media). An adaptation for the 2022 Digital Series will be that it will place a focus on concise (but still in-depth) information-sharing, with the goal of educating online audiences on peacebuilding topics related to GPW22. This content will be released to the public ahead of Geneva Peace Week (approximately 2-4 weeks in advance).

- In 2022, the digital series contributions will be 15 minutes long maximum, and recorded panel discussions will no longer be included. The only Digital Series format that will have the possibility to be longer will be the documentary format (60 minutes).
- The Digital Series will be broadcasted on the GPW website and major streaming platforms (including YouTube and Spotify etc.) The Digital Series offers an opportunity for contributions to the frontline work of peace to continue beyond Geneva Peace Week, across geographical, cultural and temporal borders.

Application Criteria

1. Substantive Criteria

For both types of formats the following criteria apply. All of these criteria are mandatory and will be valued highly within the selection process:

- Peacebuilding aims and objectives of the session are clear.
- The session clearly focuses on one main GPW22 thematic track.
- There is a Geneva-connection: Geneva Peace Week is grounded in Geneva itself.
- Organizers must articulate “why the event is connected to Geneva.” (such as: Speak to a Geneva-based process; include speaker/actor from Geneva; be a Geneva- based actor; be about the Geneva ‘ecosystem’).
- The session includes strong thematic curation and substantive moderation
- The event is Non-Promotional: Applicants are reminded that Geneva Peace Week is not a political platform, and sessions are not allowed to serve the exclusive promotion of a specific organization. UNOG, the Graduate Institute, and the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, as well as its five partner organizations, do not endorse any particular session or speaker during Geneva Peace Week.

2. Participation/Organization Criteria

For both types of formats the following criteria apply. All of these criteria are mandatory and will be valued highly within the selection process:

- Collaboration: In the GPW spirit of collaboration and participation, each session must be organized by at least two different institutional actors. Applicants are reminded that Geneva Peace Week is an inclusive initiative that welcomes a full

spectrum of views and experiences on preventing and resolving violent conflict and building peace.

- **Focus:** Events will have one main organizer and one or more co-organizers. Institutions are allowed to make one application as a main organizer of Workshop or the Digital Series. We encourage institutions to invest strongly in the quality of their chosen session; we will not accept multiple sessions with the same institution as the main organizer.
- **Responsibility:** Organizers accept responsibility for all aspects of their session or digital series, including travel assistance or visa support for speakers or facilitators in case live events take place in person, and any interpretation costs. Communication and promotion of live sessions and the digital series is the responsibility of organizers, in accordance with the Geneva Peace Week communications guidelines.

3. Workshop and Digital Series Criteria

For both formats, the following criteria will also be valued. While every submission does not need to contain all of these criteria, below are some additional assets and criteria that GPW wishes to promote:

- Amplification of the voices of local level actors, women and youth (e.g. included as speakers or facilitators)
- Involvement of non-traditional peacebuilding actors from the design of the concept through the conclusion of the event (governments, security, business actors, etc.)
- Knowledge, experiences and evidence will be shared in a manner open to a range of audiences (not only experts)
- The proposed submission showcases and promotes the forging new partnerships and collaborative efforts (e.g. breaking of silos and bringing together of various sectors)
- The proposed submission offers personal tools for peacebuilders on an individual level
- Linguistic Diversity: We encourage events in languages other than English, noting that interpretation costs must be covered by the organizing institution.

Furthermore, for the Workshops the criteria will be:

- The level of meaningful and effective interaction
- The innovative design of the event

For the Digital Series the criteria will be:

- The relevance and novelty of the content
- The innovative format of presentation

Preparational and Reporting Requirements

All successful applicants commit to:

- Attending all GPW22 Session Organizer Meetings (dates TBC).
- Submitting a final substantive report of their session learning and recommendations by Friday 18 November 2022.
- Adhere to all GPW22 guidance material.

Deadline

Applications are due by Wednesday 22 June 17:00 (Central European Standard Time) via the [Geneva Peace Week website](#). Notification will be sent to successful applicants by late July 2022.

For more information, please contact the GPW22 Team: gpw@gpplatform