



Accord 28 publication – Navigating inclusion in peace processes

Issue Editor – Provisional Terms of Reference

Overview: these provisional Terms of Reference outline roles and responsibilities for a consultant Issue Editor regarding an *Accord* project and publication on *Navigating inclusion in peace processes*. This is an output of the Political Settlements Research Programme (PSRP). The *Accord* publication will consolidate PSRP research and learning as the programme moves through the second half of its four-year duration.

Objective: to develop practical peacebuilding learning from experiences of negotiating inclusion in war to peace transitions. This will synthesise analysis from PSRP research into focused and operationally relevant findings, in order to investigate a core challenge for inclusive peace processes that has emerged from the PSRP research to date: the relationship between 1) reaching a deal among parties to conflict to end violence, and 2) expanding that deal into a social contract capable of addressing the root causes of conflict.¹ An overarching theme will be how gender inclusive processes have played out in practice. The *Accord* publication will look to both elucidate this challenge, and explore practical ways to respond to it.

Project and publication: the publication will present 20-25 articles of case studies and comparative analysis, drawing on and revisiting PSRP research and expertise, and where appropriate bringing in supplementary analysis. It will configure research from across the breadth of the PSRP programme around a structured analytical framework and lines of inquiry designed to inform policy and practice on how to promote inclusion in peace processes. Contributors to the publication will include the PSRP team and other experts and practitioners as appropriate, from the global North and South.

The project will draw out comparative and applied learning of ways to provide effective support for peace and transition processes, presented in the *Accord* publication and other project outputs, and will share findings strategically to inform peacebuilding policy and practice globally. *Accord* and the Issue Editor will develop the concept and structure of the publication as a central part of the project methodology; some initial reflections of the parameters of the publication are provided below as a guide, marked *Publication structure*.

About Accord, CR and the PSRP: Accord projects and publications document and analyse the lessons of peace processes through comparative and participatory research and activities, presenting insights from local and international experts and practitioners. Accord has been published since 1996 by Conciliation Resources, an independent non-governmental organisation working with people in conflict to prevent violence and build peace. This 28th Accord project is an output of the Political Settlements Research Programme – a four-year research project by a North-South Consortium of five organisations led by the Global Justice Academy at the University of Edinburgh, to examine how political settlements emerge, how open and inclusive they are, and how internal and external actors shape them. www.politicalsettlements.org

Role: This is a special edition of *Accord* that brings together cutting edge research on inclusion in peace and transition processes from a global research programme. A key role for the Issue Editor will be to work with *Accord* and the PSRP consortium to design and implement a project that can capture and consolidate research and insights from the breadth of the PSRP, organise this around a coherent and operationally relevant analytical framework, and present analysis and findings in a compelling and original publication.

The Issue Editor's responsibilities will include: in-depth review of existing PSRP research; engaging with relevant PSRP experts, partners and audiences; developing a concept and framework for the research; translating this into a workable publication structure; identifying and engaging authors and contributors, from PSRP and elsewhere; commissioning and editing an *Accord* publication, including where necessary providing editorial support for authors; drawing out operationally relevant learning, including through an expert workshop; and strategising and promoting uptake of findings among target audiences.

¹ Christine Bell (2017), *Navigating inclusion in peace settlements*, British Academy, June, www.politicalsettlements.org/files/2017/06/BRIJ5395_Peacebuilding_final_web.pdf

The Issue Editor's responsibilities will be carried out in close collaboration with *Accord*, as well as with other project partners, in particular from the PSRP. The work schedule for the Issue Editor is estimated at approximately 130 days over 18 months.

Methodology: Project methodology will be active and participatory, involving desk research and literature review, consultations with interlocutors from a range of disciplines and contexts, in particular during Phases 1 (concept), 3 (learning) and 5 (uptake), as outlined below. Phase 4 will likely include a learning workshop, engaging people involved in producing the research and target audiences in order to refine recommendations and inform uptake.

Key outputs:

- **Concept:** develop a project concept note and annotated publication structure, setting out the issues to be addressed, how these will contribute to building convincing evidence and practical guidance, and identifying authors and other contributors. This will involve in-depth review of PSRP research, and consultation with PSRP consortium partners and other relevant interlocutors.
- **Editorial:** commission and edit an *Accord* publication of 20-25 articles/contributions (approx. 60-70,000 words). This may involve working with and providing editorial support for authors from around the world with a wide variety of experiences and writing skills.
- **Learning:** develop operationally relevant learning from the research, including through a one-day pre-publication learning workshop.
- **Uptake:** strategise and implement dissemination, outreach and advocacy activities for the publication and other project outputs.
- **Evaluation:** strategise and implement M&E for the various project outputs and the project as a whole.

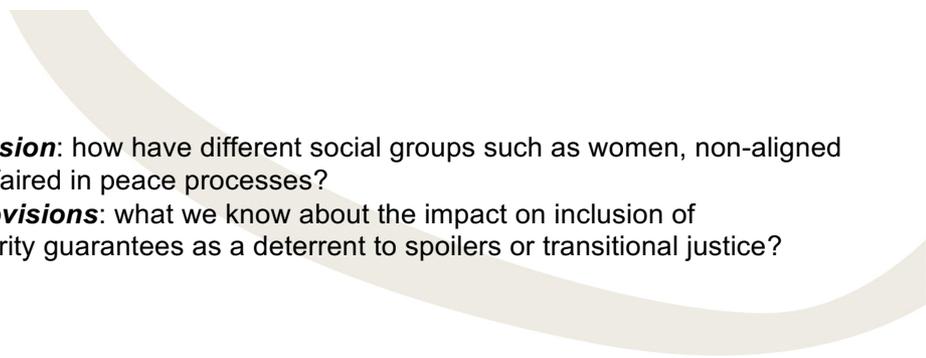
Timeframe – August 2017 to March 2019

Phase 1.	Concept	August – November 2017
Phase 2.	Editorial	December 2017 – August 2018
Phase 3.	Learning	September – October 2018
Phase 4.	Production	November – December 2018
Phase 5.	Uptake	January – February 2019
Phase 6.	Evaluation	February – March 2019

Relationships: all aspects of the *Accord* project will be developed and produced collaboratively by the Issue Editor and *Accord*, in conjunction with other partners from CR, the PSRP and elsewhere as appropriate. A detailed break down of phased responsibilities, relationships and division of labour will be developed with the Issue Editor, and reviewed regularly as the project progresses. A key consideration will be to coordinate *Accord* project activities with other components of the PSRP.

Concept: the project concept will be developed as a core part of the project methodology. A framework for developing this will be the central peace process challenge described in the *objective* above, and practical options for moving beyond this. Some initial ideas for lines of inquiry and research questions are outlined below as a guide:

- **Concepts:** how is inclusion negotiated in peace processes – especially how 'horizontal' inclusion (between elites) relates to 'vertical' inclusion (between elites, new government forces and broader social or marginalised groups)?
- **Conflict:** how does the main bargain between politico-military actors take place, and what forms of violence does it address or ignore?
- **Peace processes:** how do bargains cut between parties to conflict open up or close down political space for transformative claims to inclusion?
- **Sequencing and process design:** how and where are various forms of inclusion best negotiated and play into each other across time?
- **Power- and resource-sharing arrangements:**
 - *Political/national:* how is access to power, territory, resources and militaries addressed in 'elite deal' peace negotiations and processes, and when and how are political power-sharing arrangements established?
 - *Territorial/sub-national:* how do discrete, sub-national negotiations affect other sub-regions, and what is the desirability and feasibility of 'special arrangements' or sub-national constitutions?

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- **Trade-offs with other forms of inclusion:** how have different social groups such as women, non-aligned minorities and business communities fared in peace processes?
 - **Security guarantees and justice provisions:** what we know about the impact on inclusion of mechanisms such as amnesties, security guarantees as a deterrent to spoilers or transitional justice?