

Newsletter

Creating Safer Space

January 2022



Welcome

Creating Safer Space is an international research network, which aims to understand and support unarmed civilian protection and self-protection amidst violent conflict.

We have recently launched a funding competition, and we hope to fund 15 – 20 research projects, each to the value of £20,000 - £100,000 GBP. In this newsletter, we invite potential applicants to an information session, to find out more about our grants and how to apply.

We also wish to invite you to our next two research cafés. The January café will focus on how unarmed civilian protection differs from, and relates to, civil resistance and human rights defence. The February café will focus on a participatory and creative research method called 'Drawing Out', which is especially suitable to research on unarmed civilian protection.

Finally, we are very happy to announce a new research work package on unarmed civilian protection in Kenya.

New research work package

The *Creating Safer Space* network supports research on Unarmed Civilian Protection around the world. We are pleased to announce a new research work package:

Strengthening Local Capacities for Unarmed Civilian Protection in Uasin Gishu, Kenya

Research Team: Clinton Gwako and Selline Korir (Rural Women Peace Link)
[More information](#)



Event: Information Session on Funding Opportunities

The *Creating Safer Space* network invites applications for research grants. We will fund 15 – 20 research projects to understand and support unarmed civilian protection and self-protection amidst violent conflict.

Our research focuses on conflicts in Colombia, South Sudan, Myanmar and the Philippines, but research on other Low and Middle Income Countries (LMICs) will also be supported. Grants range from £20,000 - £100,000 GBP. Projects must be led by organisations in the UK or in LMICs. The application deadline is **15 April 2022**.

Potential applicants are invited to participate in one of the following information sessions, where we will provide more information about our grants and how to apply.

In English:

10.00 – 11.00 am UTC on **Tuesday 1 February**

08.00 – 09.00 am UTC on **Wednesday 2 March**

In Spanish:

3.00 – 4.00 pm UTC on **Tuesday 1 February** (10.00-11.00 am in Colombia)

Each session will cover the same information, so it is sufficient for applicants to attend one of the above sessions.

Please contact creating-safer-space@aber.ac.uk for Zoom joining details.

Event: Creating Safer Space Café (January)

“UCP, civil resistance, and human rights defence: demarcating three related fields of nonviolent action”

The aim of the *Creating Safer Space* Café is to enable people in different parts of the world to exchange knowledge and to help build a community of Unarmed Civilian Protection (UCP) researchers and practitioners.

In the January café, Dr Christine Schweitzer (BSV - Federation for Social Defense, and Institute for Peace Work and Nonviolent Conflict Transformation, Germany) will give us input for a discussion on the topic: What is Unarmed Civilian Protection (UCP)? How does it relate to or differ from civil resistance and human rights defence?

12.30 – 1.30 pm UTC on **Thursday 20 January**

All welcome. The session will be held in English and Spanish with simultaneous translation.

Click [here](#) to join us on Zoom.

Meeting ID 871 5525 1099 and passcode 194350

Event: Creating Safer Space Café (February)

“Using Drawing as a Research Method”

The aim of the *Creating Safer Space* Café is to enable people in different parts of the world to exchange knowledge and to help build a community of Unarmed Civilian Protection (UCP) researchers and practitioners.

In February, Prof. Berit Bliesemann de Guevara (Aberystwyth University, UK) and Prof. Rachel Julian (Leeds Beckett University, UK) will provide an introduction to ‘Drawing Out’ as a participatory and creative research method, and will explore the benefits of using this method for research on Unarmed Civilian Protection.

12.30 – 2.00 pm UTC on **Thursday 17 February**

All welcome. The session will be held in English and Spanish with simultaneous translation.

Click [here](#) to join us on Zoom.

Meeting ID 819 6165 6184 and passcode 200489

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