

Newsletter

Creating Safer Space

March 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.

This edition of the newsletter provides more information about how to apply for our research grants. We aim to fund 15 - 20 research projects of £20,000 - £100,000 each, and applicants are warmly invited to our workshops on how to write grant applications.

We also invite expressions of interest to participate in a new training course, which provides an introduction to the objectives, principles, sources of guidance, and methods of Unarmed Civilian Protection (UCP). The course is provided free of charge to selected participants.

You are also warmly invited to our next research café, which will explore the use of textiles as a creative and participatory research method well suited to research on unarmed civilian protection.

Information about Funding Opportunities

The Creating Safer Space network invites applications for research grants. We aim to fund 15 - 20 research projects to understand and support unarmed civilian protection and self-protection amidst violent conflict. More information about our funding opportunities is available on our [website](#), and the deadline is **15 April 2022**.

We have recently updated our [Budget Form](#) to clarify that our Small Grant is £20,000 - £30,000 and our Large Grant is £30,000 - £100,000 **at Full Economic Cost (FEC)**. This makes no difference for applicants from Low and Middle Income Countries (LMICs), but we ask UK applicants to ensure the amended Budget Form is used. We ask all applicants to regularly review our [Frequently Asked Questions](#), which are updated in response to applicant queries.

Workshop on how to write grant applications

Potential applicants are warmly invited to our workshop on how to write a grant application, where we will provide specific information and top tips on how to write a successful grant application for *Creating Safer Space* funding. Please note that each of the below sessions cover the same information, so there is no need to attend more than one.

English:

- 10.00 – 11.00 am UTC on **Thursday 3 March** – [register here](#)
- 08.00 – 09.00 am UTC on **Wednesday 9 March** – [register here](#)

Spanish:

- 14.00 – 15.00 pm UTC on **Friday 11 March** (09.00 – 10.00 am Colombian time)
- Contact creating-safer-space@aber.ac.uk for Zoom joining details.

New Course: Strengthening Civilian Capacities to Protect Civilians

The *Creating Safer Space* research network invites Expressions of Interest to participate in a 10-week training course on “Strengthening Civilian Capacities to Protect Civilians”.

This course is an introduction to the objectives, principles, sources of guidance, and methods of Unarmed Civilian Protection (UCP). The course is led by Dr Ellen Furnari, and is based on course content developed by our partner organisation [Nonviolent Peaceforce](#). There are no course fees, and course material will be provided for free. More information about the content of the course is available on our [website](#).

The course dates are **26 March – 4 June 2022**. The course will require about 8-10 hours per week to read, participate and complete assignments. Participants complete all activities online through modules that are accessed through the course website. While there are no scheduled meetings for this course, participants are invited to meet the course facilitators and each other during an informal kick-off Zoom meeting on **Saturday 26 March**. Additional informal meetings are likely to be arranged during the course, but attendance will not be required.

Eligibility

Researchers, Masters/PhD students and relevant practitioners are invited to submit an Expression of Interest to participate in this course. Anyone is welcome to apply, but places are limited. Priority will be given to those candidates who are most likely to benefit from the course, with priority to candidates from the UK and from the Global South. We especially encourage applicants for our [research grants](#) to apply.

How to apply

Please submit an Expression of Interest of no more than 100 words to creating-safer-space@aber.ac.uk, with an explanation of your interest in the course and how it would benefit you in your work or studies.

Creating Safer Space Café

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.

This month, Prof. Beatriz Arias (University of Antioquia, Colombia) will provide an introduction to using textiles (embroidering, sewing, and other needle-work) 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 March**

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

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

Meeting ID 844 4151 3041 and passcode 704910



Creating Safer Space
Department of International Politics
Aberystwyth University
Penglais Aberystwyth
SY23 3FE, Wales, UK

Please contact us on creating-safer-space@aber.ac.uk to unsubscribe from this mailing list.