



Dear All,

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

We are very happy to be able to share more information about our exciting new research projects. With 21 research projects around the world (and a few more yet to come), we hope to strengthen civilian capacities for nonviolent (self-)protection in conflict-affected areas.

We are also pleased to invite you to our next Research Café – come along to hear more about Unarmed Civilian Protection in Thailand. All welcome!

## Find out about our new research projects

The *Creating Safer Space* network has funded 21 research projects around the world, and we have set aside funding for a few more projects. These will undertake research in 10 different countries in the Global South.

You can find a summary of each project by clicking on the pins on our [Project Map](#). Each project also has a bespoke website on our [Projects Page](#), where they provide more detailed information about their plans and activities.



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## Research Café: Unarmed Civilian Protection in Thailand

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. Chantana Wungaeo and Prof. Mark Tamthai will discuss their *Creating Safer Space* research project, [“Introducing Unarmed Civilian Protection in Thai Society: Opportunities and Challenges”](#). The team will share the aims of the project, their experiences of carrying out the project, and preliminary findings and anticipated outcomes.

12.30 – 1.30 pm UTC on **Thursday 17 November**

Please use a [timezone converter](#) to check your local time.

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

All welcome; please register here:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcrdu6vrzwqGNAh3SRpvoWosvRm2c4sBn9L>

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## New Course: Strengthening Civilian Capacities to Protect Civilians

The *Creating Safer Space* network will soon invite 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 Dr Thor Wagstrom, 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.

The tentative course dates are **7 January – 17 March 2023**. 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. There is likely to be some optional scheduled meetings, 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. We particularly encourage Principal Investigators, Co-Investigators, Project Partners and Research Assistants on *Creating Safer Space* research projects to participate.

### ***How to apply***

More information about how to apply will be provided in the November edition of our Newsletter. Information about last year’s course is available on our [website](#).

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## External News and Events

The **Arts and Humanities Research Council Network Plus** work on different aspects of peace and protection across the world. The *Creating Safer Space* network is one of these Network Plus, and each of our sister networks have their own websites with more information about their [events, activities and funding opportunities](#).

**Monica Carrer** has recently published a book on [How People Respond to Violence: Everyday Peace and the Maoist Conflict in India](#) (Palgrave, Macmillan, 2022). The book explores violent conflict from the perspectives of the local people who experience it.

The **Friends Support Friends** group brings together participants from Thailand and Myanmar and beyond, to bear witness to the suffering and resilience of the people of Myanmar after the coup. Contact [Chanchai Chaisukkosol](#) for more information.

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