

**Call for Contributions**  
**“(Re)thinking Time and Temporalities in Peace and Conflict”**  
**Zentrumstage 2020**  
an international conference by the  
Center for Conflict Studies, University of Marburg  
29th-31st of October 2020

Thinking about time and temporalities is crucial to the study of peace and conflict. Both concepts are an essential part of how we make sense of the world around us and our existence within it. In consequence, they structure how we think about conflict and peace in a multitude of ways. Whether it's the foundational distinction between times of peace and times of war (as well as the transitions between them) or the periodization of conflicts, the various ways in which we order conflict and peace temporally have consequences for our interpretations of the subject matter. Temporal dynamics within conflicts, such as acceleration or deceleration or the potential heterogeneity and interplay of timelines in various arenas, may be useful lenses through which to consider processes in conflict settings. Furthermore, the construction of pasts, presents and futures as well as memory in and of conflict can serve as a powerful moment for a conflict's continuation, transformation or resurgence. Inquiries into constructive timing and sequencing are thus also key for conflict transformation and the fostering of peace. Be it the different approaches of dealing with a violent past, challenges of transforming current conflicts or future prospects of peace – time and temporalities are always an integral part when addressing conflict dynamics and peace processes.

While perennial efforts of conceptualizing time and temporalities have left their mark on other disciplines within the social sciences and humanities, the topic has thus far not been at the forefront of academic inquiry in our field. It is therefore time to deepen our understanding of these perspectives, further conceptualize time and temporalities, and strengthen the temporal focus in Peace and Conflict Studies. We will consider these and further aspects within the framework of the international **“Zentrumstage” conference, a biennial event held by the Center for Conflict Studies of the University of Marburg**. The conference's core focus lies on in-depth discussions and analysis of current debates in Peace and Conflict Studies, from theoretical concepts to empirical case studies.

The upcoming conference, *(Re)thinking Time and Temporalities in Peace and Conflict*, considers how time is constructed, experienced, applied and governed by the actors in the realm of peace and conflict. It will further increase our knowledge on time sensitivity by analyzing how decisions on timing, sequencing and urgency come to bear on conflicts, their transformation and peacebuilding efforts. How can time and temporalities be thought ontologically and operationalized accordingly? How could a temporal lens present a valuable analytical category for peace and conflict research even when time isn't at the center of the inquiry? During the conference, we will also examine the construction and application of time and temporalities in the discipline itself and therefore explicitly encourage contributions from critical perspectives.

## Topics

We welcome proposals from across Peace and Conflict Studies. Submissions could contribute to one or more of the following themes:

- time sensitivity, e.g. sequencing
- continuities and disruptions, e.g. generational dynamics
- contestation, e.g. backlash
- narratives and time, e.g. memory
- everyday temporalities, e.g. temporal practices
- multiple temporalities, e.g. conflictive and parallel temporalities
- entanglement of time and power relations, e.g. time regimes

Candidates are also explicitly encouraged to submit contributions on aspects or topics not mentioned above.

We welcome the submission of papers and panels as well as proposals for further, creative formats. Please submit an abstract of up to 400 words and a brief bio of up to 150 words by March 15, 2020 to [time2020@uni-marburg.de](mailto:time2020@uni-marburg.de). The conference language is English.

We are in the process of applying for additional funding, but please be aware that as yet we cannot guarantee a reimbursement of travel expenses or accommodation costs. A free childcare service will be provided throughout the conference; please contact us for further information.

We look forward to reading your submissions!

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For further information, please visit us:

<https://www.uni-marburg.de/de/konfliktforschung/veranstaltungen/zentrumstage/zentrumstage-2020>