

## New Coalitions for Peace and Development

### International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding Policy Statement

*We, the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (IDPS), consisting of countries affected by conflict and fragility, development partners and civil society, issue the following policy statement:*

#### Preamble

Today, violent conflict stands at its highest level since World War II, while global fragility continues to rise. The most severe impacts of crisis, conflict, and instability converge in the 61 contexts facing high and extreme fragility.<sup>i</sup> Poverty is also concentrated in these contexts, which host 25% of the world's population but 72% of the extreme poor<sup>ii</sup>. Conflicts contribute to 80% of all humanitarian needs<sup>iii</sup> and remain primary drivers of terrorism<sup>iv</sup> and displacement.<sup>v</sup> These contexts face multiple intersecting challenges<sup>vi</sup>, and risk being further left behind as global inequalities rise.

Meanwhile, development cooperation is in crisis as development assistance budgets are being cut and redirected. According to the OECD, official development assistance (ODA) is projected to decline by 9 to 17% in 2025, following a 9% drop in 2024<sup>vii</sup>, with dramatic consequences for the poorest and most vulnerable communities. This decline coincides with a broader polycrisis of transactionalism in international cooperation, rising militarization and autocratization, and a legitimacy deficit in multilateralism.

Violence cost the global economy \$19.97 trillion in 2024, approximately 11.6% of the gross world product.<sup>viii</sup> While military spending is increasing, resources for peace and conflict prevention are at their second lowest level since 2004,<sup>ix</sup> even though each dollar invested in prevention can save between \$26 and \$103.<sup>x</sup> Militarization cannot be the only response to global conflict. A renewed focus on conflict prevention and peacebuilding is crucial to avoid vicious cycles where force increasingly dictates relations within the global community.

As noted in the INCAF Communiqué to the DAC,<sup>xi</sup> the shifting global landscape calls for more direct, fair, equal, long-term, and accountable forms of cooperation which transcend financial aid and integrate economic, diplomatic, and security relationships. Innovative models of cooperation are needed to address today's multidimensional challenges.

This is the spirit in which the IDPS was formed: a unique political dialogue platform that has reshaped policy, advocacy, and multistakeholder action, and elevated the voices of states facing fragility and conflict.<sup>xii</sup> In today's period of rapid geopolitical transformation and crisis, IDPS recognizes the need to adapt and meet the moment to respond more effectively to current realities, strengthen commitments, and accelerate collective action to fulfil its mission and the promise of SDG16 by 2030.

#### Directions of change

This statement provides the foundation for IDPS' recalibration, highlighting shared priorities and charting the way forward for a revitalized platform. We invite partners to join us in shaping a new agenda for peace and development cooperation with the following objectives:

##### **1. ODA4Fragility: Prioritize states facing high fragility and conflict**

In a time of shrinking ODA budgets, a fragility lens must be applied to prioritize how and where ODA is allocated. We call on all development partners and relevant financial institutions to channel resources to the contexts most affected by fragility and conflict, including through innovative financing models.

##### **2. ODA4Peace: Safeguard peacebuilding and invest in conflict prevention**

Investment in conflict prevention and peacebuilding is essential and cost-effective, reducing fragility, preventing violent conflict, and mitigating regional spillovers. We call on all UN Member States to prioritize and safeguard ODA and investments for conflict prevention and peacebuilding, recognizing these as indispensable and more cost-effective complements to defense and deterrence.

### **3. Prioritise structural transformation, preventive approaches, and long-term solutions**

Ending humanitarian needs requires shifting from short-term responses to long-term strategies rooted in structural transformation, peacebuilding, and preventive action. Supporting national and local stakeholders to address the root causes of conflict and manage shocks peacefully reduces the human and economic costs of violence and yields more durable outcomes than repeated crisis response. Echoing the g7+ Dili Resolution, we call for greater cooperation on conflict prevention through coordinated diplomacy and strengthened support for traditional and community-based conflict resolution mechanisms.

### **4. Ensure national leadership and inclusion of civil society and grassroots groups**

Conflict prevention and peacebuilding must be nationally and locally owned, with effective support from international partners. Echoing the 2025 Rome Civil Society Declaration on SDG16+, this requires fully recognizing and resourcing civil society and grassroots groups, particularly women's and youth-led movements, and ensuring their full, equal, and meaningful participation in line with the Women, Peace & Security and Youth, Peace & Security agendas.<sup>xiii</sup>

### **5. Expand collaborative multistakeholder partnerships**

Addressing conflict and fragility requires joint efforts. More equal, transparent, and responsible partnerships between donor and partner countries that move beyond financial aid to include economic, diplomatic, and security relationships are needed. Building on its unique model of tripartite dialogue between fragile states, development partners, and civil society, IDPS will broaden its partnership to engage emerging peacebuilding actors, new donors, additional states affected by conflict and fragility beyond the g7+, as well as civil society and regional actors. The IDPS aims to expand its membership, serving as a bridge between national governments and civil society - including women, youth, displaced persons, and frontline actors.

### **6. Enhance complementarity, coherence, and coordination between peace, humanitarian, development, and security cooperation**

Peace, security, humanitarian, and development cooperation must be understood holistically, as interlinked and mutually reinforcing. For lasting impact, humanitarian aid, development cooperation, and financing must be recognized as vital pillars alongside foreign and security policy. Whole-of-government approaches that engage all relevant ministries, and whole-of-society approaches that ensure the inclusion of all relevant actors and vulnerable groups, are essential. With growing pressure on the aid system, partners should strengthen coherence, complementarity and cooperation through the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) nexus and among conflict prevention, peacebuilding, and security efforts.

### **7. Elevate narratives, evidence, data, analysis, and lessons learned for policy and practice**

Reliable and qualitative evidence, data, and analysis are critical for effective conflict prevention and peacebuilding, particularly in contexts facing conflict and fragility. A convincing narrative, grounded in credible data and lessons learned, is essential to mobilize political will, influence policy, and secure sustained commitment. IDPS will enhance collaboration to improve data and evidence and translate lessons learned at country level into policy and practice. IDPS will leverage collective learning and good practices to inform efforts at local, national, regional, and global levels, and to build stronger coalitions and partnerships for peace and development.

## **Next steps**

IDPS invites partners to engage with this unique platform to champion structural and meaningful solutions to address fragility, conflict, and violence. To this end, IDPS aims to:

- Convene multistakeholder dialogues at global, regional, and country level, complementing existing structures and building on IDPS' unique added value, to inform critical discussions at the intersection of peace, humanitarian aid, development, and security.
- Expand IDPS to new and former stakeholders who wish to engage in this inclusive political dialogue platform as constituents, partners, or observers.
- Continue recalibrating and transforming the platform to be more agile, adaptive, and inclusive to better serve countries and communities affected by fragility and conflict, together with their partners.

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- <sup>i</sup> OECD (2025), States of Fragility 2025, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/81982370-en>.
- <sup>ii</sup> OECD (2025), States of Fragility 2025, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/81982370-en>.
- <sup>iii</sup> United Nations – World Bank Group Partnership in Crisis-Affected Situations (2022) [https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/16778-wb\\_2022\\_un-wb\\_partnership-web.pdf](https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/16778-wb_2022_un-wb_partnership-web.pdf)
- <sup>iv</sup> Global Terrorism Index 2025 finds that 98 percent of deaths from terrorism between 2007-2024 occurred in countries that were involved in a conflict. Institute for Economics & Peace. Global Terrorism Index 2025: Measuring The Impact of Terrorism, Sydney, March 2025. Available from: <http://visionofhumanity.org/resources>
- <sup>v</sup> UNHCR: Figures at a Glance <https://www.unhcr.org/us/about-unhcr/overview/figures-glance>
- <sup>vi</sup> Dili Resolution: Outcome Document of the 6th g7+ Ministerial Meeting Dili, Timor-Leste | 12 April 2025 <https://www.g7plus.org/recourses/dili-resolution-outcome-document-of-the-6th-g7-ministerial-meeting/>
- <sup>vii</sup> “Cuts in official development assistance: OECD projections for 2025 and near term”, (2025, June 26) [https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/2025/06/cuts-in-official-development-assistance\\_e161f0c5/full-report.html](https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/2025/06/cuts-in-official-development-assistance_e161f0c5/full-report.html)
- <sup>viii</sup> Institute for Economics & Peace. Global Peace Index 2025: Identifying and Measuring the Factors that Drive Peace, Sydney, June 2025. Available from: <http://visionofhumanity.org/resources>
- <sup>ix</sup> OECD (2025), States of Fragility 2025, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/81982370-en>.
- <sup>x</sup> IMF (2025) How Sound Economic Policy Can Help Prevent Conflict <https://www.imf.org/en/Blogs/Articles/2025/03/13/how-sound-economic-policy-can-help-prevent-conflict>
- <sup>xi</sup> International Network on Conflict and Fragility (INCAF) INCAF Communiqué to the DAC (2025, July 8) DCD/DAC/INCAF(2025)5/FINAL [https://one.oecd.org/document/DCD/DAC/INCAF\(2025\)5/FINAL/en/pdf](https://one.oecd.org/document/DCD/DAC/INCAF(2025)5/FINAL/en/pdf)
- <sup>xii</sup> See the [New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States](#), [Stockholm Declaration](#), [2019-2021 Peace Vision](#), IDPS [inputs to the New Agenda for Peace](#), IDPS Statement on [Turning the Tide for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies](#).
- <sup>xiii</sup> A Compass for Navigating through the Geopolitical Storm 2025 Rome Civil Society Declaration on SDG16+ <https://tapnetwork2030.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/2025-Rome-Civil-Society-Declaration-on-SDG16.pdf> Also see Empowering Civil Society in a Volatile World 2024, CSPPS Berlin Statement <https://www.cspps.org/files/2024-07/2024%20CSPPS%20Berlin%20Statement%20.docx%20%281%29.pdf>