



# Conflict and Development (Routledge Perspectives on Development)

By Roger Mac Ginty, Andrew Williams

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**Conflict and Development (Routledge Perspectives on Development)** By Roger Mac Ginty, Andrew Williams

Over the past decade, a new awareness of the relationship between conflicts and development has grown. Developmental factors can act as a trigger for violence, as well as for ending violence and for triggering post-conflict reconstruction. This book explores the complexity of the links between violent conflict (usually civil wars) and development, under-development and uneven development. It emphasizes the connections between stable developed economies and civil wars in other parts of the world, and examines how structural factors (such as the organization of the global economy) virtually condemn some regions to conflict and under-development.

This valuable introductory text explains, reviews and critically evaluates this complex relationship. It focuses on intra-state conflicts and complex political emergencies that combine transnational and internal characteristics. Attention is also given to inter-state conflicts. Chapters emphasize how the relationship between conflict and development traverses many scales (macro, meso and micro) and dimensions (economic, political and cultural). Furthermore it explains how different developmental challenges and opportunities emerge along the full life-cycle of conflict. Specifically, the role of poverty, state, market, civil society, globalization, humanitarian aid, refugees, gender and health within conflict dynamics are examined. The book also investigates specific developmental issues emerging during conflict management and post conflict reconstruction. Both authors have a background in conducting research in deeply divided societies, and argue that many of the processes connected with war and peace making deliberately write people out of the equation. This book attempts to 'write people in'.

By drawing on contemporary theoretical debates and examining current policies and events, the text unpacks the difficult and complex aspects of the relationships between armed conflict and development and makes them accessible, interesting and policy relevant. It considers how peace making, peace building, and post-war reconstruction are usually more sustainable and successful if politicians, policy makers, entrepreneurs and those working for international NGOs take on board local opinion and capacity. Written in an accessible style, the book considers the

main contemporary theories and arguments on conflict, development and the interactions between the two. The text is illuminated throughout with case studies drawn from Africa, the Balkans, Asia and the Middle East.

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### Review

"This book offers a much needed overview of a rapidly developing academic area that blends the study of complex humanitarian emergencies with that of sustainable social and economic development. One of the book's key strengths is that it is written for a wide audience and thus makes excellent reading for students and academics as well as practitioners in the field."

Dr Krijn Peters, Swansea University, UK

"A thought provoking introduction to the linkages between conflict and development from a critical perspective. Combining lucid theoretical explanations with illustrative case studies, this book will introduce students across disciplines to the complex problems faced by disadvantaged populations in the contemporary international system."

Jonathan Hall,

Utrecht University and Uppsala University

### About the Author

**Andrew Williams** is Professor of International Relations, University of St Andrews. He specialises in the study of conflict and international history. His main research interests include international conflict resolution, international history and international organisation. He has had a great deal of experience of the practice of conflict resolution and has worked as a consultant for United Nations organisations such as UNDP and UNITAR. He has published widely in key journals. His book *Liberalism and War* was published by Routledge in 2005.

**Roger Mac Ginty** is a Reader at the School of International Relations, University of St Andrews. He specialises in the study of peace, conflict and conflict management. His publications include *No War, No Peace: The rejuvenation of stalled peace processes and peace accords*.

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