

SECOND INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL IN PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES

STATE FRAGMENTATION, REGIONAL CRISES AND WAR ENDINGS

Nicosia, 19 – 31 July, 2015

Following the success of the 2014 International Summer School (ISS) in Peace and Conflict Studies, the Department of Social and Political Sciences, University of Cyprus, announces the Second International Summer School in Peace and Conflict Studies, which is organized in collaboration with the European Consortium for Political Research and the International Association for Peace and Conflict Studies. The 2015 ISS focus theme will be “State Fragmentation, Regional Crises and War Endings.”

Theme & Objectives:

The continuation of war, terrorist and secessionist movements, and the radicalization of politics in cross-national and regional contexts present pressing and persistent crises to the international system. In some occasions, basic governance and welfare provisions have collapsed. Humanitarian relief has become ever more necessary but increasingly dangerous. Beyond the fragility of state institutions, the viability of 20th century state formations is in serious doubt in certain regions. Conflict resolution and peacebuilding theory and practice face new problems and challenges that require serious reflection and understanding, careful engagement and well-thought action.

The purpose of the ISS is to bring together leading academics in the interdisciplinary field of Peace and Conflict Studies with practitioners and postgraduate students who are working in this area. The objective is to develop a corpus of critical knowledge which will influence peacebuilding theory, methodology, ethics and policy, as well as to have a broader impact on one of the key agendas of IR-peacemaking. To this end, the subjects and themes of the summer school will range from peace and conflict theories to policy analysis and field work experiences. This multileveled approach to the problems of peace and conflict studies – from theory to practice – will be channeled into all the various themes and subjects; in this way, the ISS forum will be both broad and deep in scope.

Study Areas & Structure:

The ISS will focus on a number of areas of study and research that relate to the problems of postconflict peacekeeping like, for example, sustainable development, political economy, social psychology, political theory, sociology, environmental studies, gender and conflict, critical geography, religion, social anthropology, area studies, urban studies and international relations.

The structure of the ISS will be critically oriented – as opposed to discipline oriented – for the overarching purpose of: a) debating and discussing a critical research and policy agenda for peace and conflict studies going forward; b) creating a networking environment that will break down many of the isolating walls of contemporary, discipline-centred academia; c) attracting leading figures in the field and researchers interested in sharing ideas across place and discipline; d) responding to the critical question of what type of local, national regional and international political arrangements might be suitable for a postliberal, postcolonial, post-cold war era.

Target Group:

The ISS seeks to attract reflective research students (MA or PhD), preferably with field experience, working on a broad range of issues pertaining to peace and peacebuilding. The aim is to broaden rather than restrict input and to bring together individuals with different disciplinary backgrounds and professional experiences.

Format:

The ISS will be taught in intensive morning and afternoon sessions. It will be organized around lectures and seminars led by experts. It will also include roundtables, panels and discussion sessions with scholars and practitioners. Furthermore, fieldtrips will be organized around specific daily topics, while social events will be held to facilitate the discussion of research agendas. One hour each day will be invested for student consultation, while one day will be allocated to students to present their own research work and receive feedback from the teaching faculty.

Teaching Faculty:

Lectures, seminars, roundtables, panels and discussion sessions will be led by local and international leading scholars and experts. Teaching faculty will be confirmed in January 2015.

Location:

The ISS will take place in Old Nicosia, the heart of Cyprus's divided capital, which provides a cozy and vibrant environment, as well as the opportunity for social and cultural entertainment during day and nighttime.

Cyprus:

The intractable Cyprus Problem provides a useful backdrop to study issues of peace and conflict. Furthermore, the current financial crisis and the recent Middle East uprisings have recontextualized and reproblematised these issues. In the heart of a vibrant divided city, participants will be able to experience first-hand peace and conflict predicaments and reflect on wider issues from around the globe.

Credits:

Participants may opt to receive up to 10 ECTS credits. 5 ECTS and a Certificate of attendance issued by the University of Cyprus will be awarded upon production of a reflection paper and its oral presentation on the last day of the ISS programs. 10 ECTS and a Diploma will be awarded to students who will opt to produce a research paper of 7,000 words.

Fees & Accommodation:

The participation fee will be in the region of 1000 EUR, including accommodation (packages to be confirmed in January 2015).

Scholarships:

A limited number of scholarships will be awarded on a merit and need basis to partially cover participation and/or travel expenses.

Organizing Committee:

Maria Hadjipavlou (Chair), University of Cyprus
Costas M. Constantinou, University of Cyprus
Antonis Ellinas, University of Cyprus

Applications & Further Information:

For further information and to apply (from January 2015 onwards), check our website at **<http://www.ucy.ac.cy/sap/en/summer-school>** or contact **Nayia Kamenou** (**kamenou.nayia@ucy.ac.cy**).