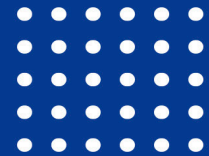


CALL FOR PAPERS & FILMS

ON THE ROLE OF MEDIA IN PEACE AND CONFLICTS IN FRAGILE CONTEXTS.

PDRC thereby invites Somali researchers, peacebuilding practitioners, supporters, actors, documentary filmmakers, videographers, content creators as well as academicians to submit papers, presentations, and films on the “Role of Media in Peacebuilding”.



**PDRC
ANNUAL**
PEACE CONFERENCE
SEP 21-23 2024

SUBMISSION PROCESS AND KEY DATES:

- Submission of paper abstract and film preview deadline: **25th May 2024**
- Notification of tentative acceptance: **05 June 2024**
- Comments and Reviews on Submitted / Accepted Abstracts: **20th June 2024**
- Draft Full paper / presentation / film submission deadline: **10th August 2024**
- Peer Review of Submitted papers / presentations / films: **25th August 2024**
- 2nd Draft of Papers / presentations / films submitted to PDRC Editorial Board: **31st August 2024**
- Editorial Comments / Reviews on Submitted draft full papers / presentations / films: **10th September 2024**
- Submission of Final drafts of accepted papers / presentations / films: **15th September 2024**
- Conference dates: September **21st – 23rd 2024**.
- Publication of presented Papers in the PDRC APC Publication Series: **March 31, 2025**



The Puntland Development Research Center (PDRC) is a local, non-profit, and apolitical research organization based in Garowe, Puntland State of Somalia. PDRC's mandate is to conduct research, analysis, and advocacy on peacebuilding, security, governance, respect for human rights, and development in Puntland and Somalia. PDRC aims to contribute to evidence-based policymaking and programming to foster peacebuilding and state-building in the region with support from local, national, and international stakeholders.

For the past 25 years, PDRC has been actively engaged in peace and state-building efforts in Puntland and Somalia through various initiatives. It has conducted research and analysis on conflict drivers, governance structures, and the challenges to development in the region. PDRC actively facilitated dialogue, consultation and consensus building among stakeholders in Somalia's Peacebuilding and State building Process to promote peaceful resolution of conflicts and enhance social cohesion. PDRC considers these stakeholders to include government officials, civil society organizations, religious scholars, women's umbrellas, traditional leaders, as well as marginalized and disadvantaged communities.

Furthermore, PDRC contributes to peacebuilding efforts by providing platforms for dialogue, reconciliation, and trust-building among different clans and communities in Puntland and Somalia. It has facilitated inter-clan dialogues, peace conferences, and community-based conflict resolution mechanisms to promote peaceful coexistence and reduce violence.

In 2023, PDRC held the inaugural Annual Peace Learning Conference (APLC) Themed: **"COMMUNAL PEACE AND RECONCILIATION IN SOMALIA."** The 2023 APLC brought together Peace and State Building Stakeholders from Somalia and the Horn of Africa in a 3-day conference to reflect on Communal Peace and Reconciliation Efforts in different Parts of the region. Researchers, peacebuilding practitioners, supporters, actors, and academicians from the Horn of Africa and elsewhere submitted and presented papers, presentations, and films highlighting their experiences and lessons learned in communal peace and reconciliation efforts in Somalia.

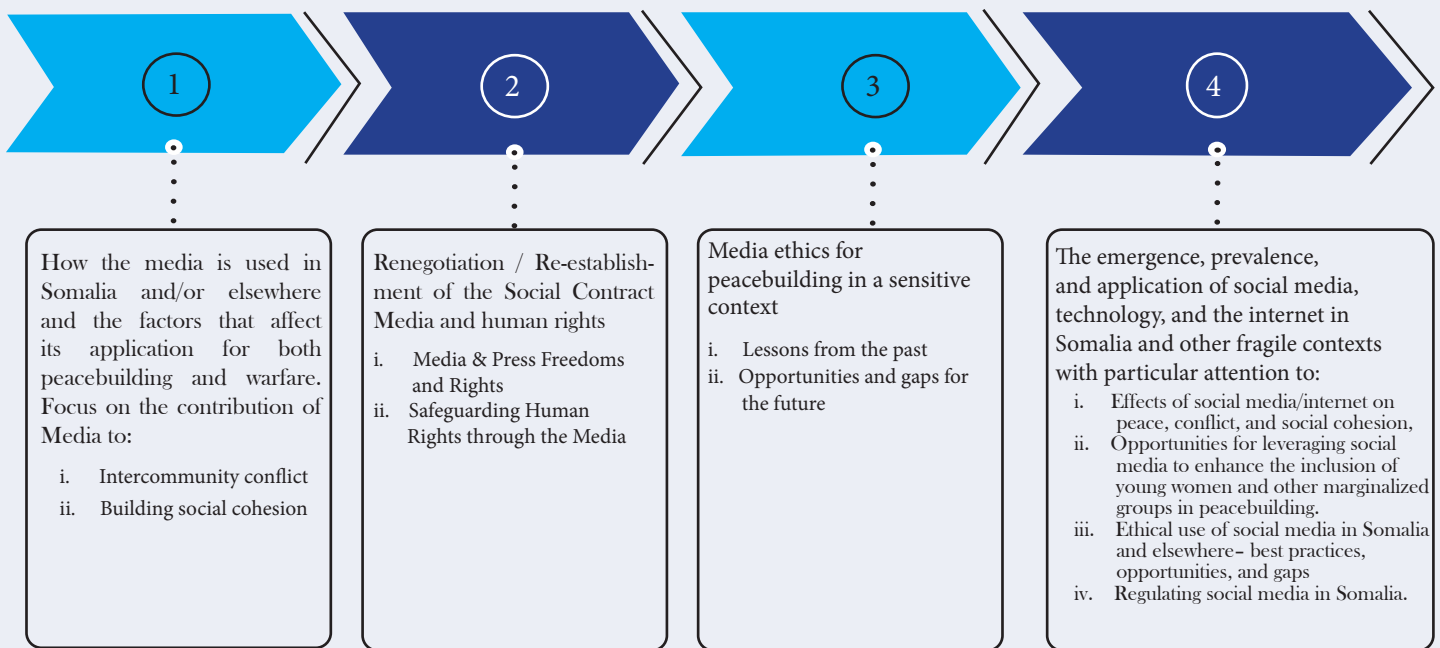
The PDRC's decision to start and continue this annual event was prompted by the failure of thirty years of national and international investment in peacebuilding processes in Somalia, as well as the necessity for critical analysis and reflections on the conduct and experiences of peacebuilding in Somalia and similar contexts. Thus, this annual convention provides an opportunity for concerned academics, practitioners, supporters, and partners to learn from one another's experiences, replicate best practices in their respective contexts, and avoid making the same mistakes in their future peacebuilding support projects.

Somalia has experienced decades of conflict and instability, leading to widespread violence, displacement, and suffering among its communities. Local and international media continue to play a significant role in the Somali conflict, either as a trigger/enabler/catalyst for conflict or as a platform for engaging in dialogue and promoting reconciliation efforts that lead to conflict cessation. These roles reflect the evolution of Somali media over time and its contribution to the peace and state-building process in the country.

The Somali media has historically upheld norms of journalism and ethical reporting, which has improved its beneficial impact on the country's efforts to rebuild peace. Despite this, social media, the internet, and technology have brought several positive and negative changes to Somalia's media environment. On the one hand, Somalis' reliance on traditional media for news and information has decreased due to the prevalence and increased access to social media and the internet, improving people's rights to free expression and information access. On the other hand, the unregulated and unethical use of social media has compromised social cohesiveness, privacy, and stability due to the lack of regulatory frameworks, filtering, and oversight.

The Second PDRC Annual Peace Conference to be held in September 2024 focuses on **"THE ROLE OF THE MEDIA IN PEACE AND CONFLICTS IN FRAGILE CONTEXTS"**. This conference aims to bring together Somali peacebuilding practitioners and experts to share their successes, challenges, and best practices vis-a-vis the role of media in peace and conflict efforts in Somalia and beyond.

PDRC thereby invites Somali researchers, peacebuilding practitioners, supporters, actors, documentary filmmakers, videographers, content creators as well as academicians to submit papers, presentations, and films on the “Role of Media in Peacebuilding” with a particular focus on the following sub-themes:



Selected papers, presentations, and films will be presented at the peace conference in Garowe, providing a platform for knowledge exchange and networking from each other's experiences. Besides presentation of the papers, presentations, and films at PDRC's 2024 APC, the submissions will be published in PDRC's website and the PDRC APC Publication Series.

All papers and films submitted will be peer-reviewed prior to presentation at the PDRC APC 2024 and eventual publication by PDRC.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

PAPER / PRESENTATION SUBMISSION

- Abstracts or summaries of papers or presentations (maximum 500 words) should be submitted as MS Word attachments to [email address] by [submission deadline]. The abstract should clearly state the:
 - o Objective of the paper/presentation,
 - o Research methodologies and findings, and
 - o Contribution to knowledge and best practices on the role of media in peacebuilding.
- Author(s) details:
 - o Name(s),
 - o Institutional affiliation if any,
 - o Institution's address(es),
 - o Corresponding author,
 - o Email address(es) and
 - o A short bio (up to 100 words).

- Full papers or presentations
 - Should be between 3000 to 5000 words (excluding abstracts) in MS Word
 - All papers should be in Font ‘Times New Roman’, Font Size 12, ‘Single spaced’.
- References: Papers should be well referenced using the APA referencing approach. According to the style guide, the list of sources should include authors' first names. In the case of direct quotations, exact page numbers are necessary.
- Film submission is not a requirement for those submitting papers.

FILM SUBMISSION

- A 5–7-minute trail video on the role of Media in Peace and conflict in Somalia and other countries with similar contexts made by the applicant (individual/institution). The video clip must have English subtitles and be in MP4 format.
- All rights must have been observed in the production of the film(s)
- Paper submission is not a requirement for those submitting films.

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We look forward to receiving your submissions. Only those selected after screening will be contacted with further instructions to participate in the peace conference in Garowe.

Thank you,
For further inquiries or information, please us contact:
apc@pdrcomlia.org and ajama@pdrcomalia.org