

From the Editor's Desk

15 February 2020

**Call for Papers**

The editors of the *Journal of Transdisciplinary Peace Praxis* (JTTP) invite submissions to be a part of its fourth issue (Volume 2, Issue 2, scheduled to be released on **15 August 2020**). Our fourth issue will be dedicated to the complex relationships between religion and conflict in the contemporary world. How do we define the role of religion in destructive conflict and resist the simplistic description of any conflict being given the broad label of 'religious'? Conversely, what role should religious belief and practice play in building peace? Clearly religious belief and practice are often instrumentalised for both peace and conflict by collectives with unmet needs and interests. As scholars and practitioners of peace, how do we understand the role of religion in our work for peace? We invite articles that explore the role of religion in conflict and peace and welcome transdisciplinary explorations of the complicated religious dynamics in social, cultural, and political life. In the spirit of the true transdisciplinarity that the JTTP embraces, we want to encourage contributions from all religious traditions and backgrounds, including those faiths that have traditionally been outside the critical gaze of scholarship in this area.

The journal will consider articles on any topic related to the role of religion in peacebuilding and conflict. Special consideration will be given to more specific topics including, but not limited to:

- Religion and nationalism;
- Religious identity and devotionism;
- Religion and environmental conflict;
- Religion and interfaith dialogue/encounter;
- Religious fundamentalism and its attenuate violence;
- Faith-based organisations/leaders in conflict zones;
- Religious practices and rituals used in creating and maintaining peace.

Journal of Transdisciplinary Peace Praxis

We call on scholar-practitioners of peace and conflict studies, religious studies, social psychology, anthropology, international relations, systems thinking, public policy, and all evidence-based social sciences to join us in exploring the complex connections between religion, social conflict, and peace.

We believe this fourth issue will build on the critical lens we have been developing in our first three issues and we encourage you to visit our current issue (<https://jtpuk.org/current-issue-download/>) and archive (<https://jtpuk.org/archive/>) to see samples of our critical praxis. Specific attention to the above themes is encouraged and the editors have also included the questions below as further guidance towards the interests for this issue of the JTPP:

- What does it mean to call a conflict 'religious'?
- How do we comparatively categorise and create typologies of religious conflicts?
- How do we analyse the dynamics of conflict in faith-based settings?
- How do we disentangle the multiple perspectives and worldviews in a religious conflict?
- Why does confrontation so often revert to religious identity and/or ideology?
- How does religious literacy and a sense of being a cosmopolitan 'global citizen' impact practitioner's ability to understand and intervene in religious conflict?

These are not necessarily new questions, and they aim to give authors broad reign to develop exploration and understanding. The complexity of our task cannot be overstated. Disentangling interests and motivation from value commitments is notoriously difficult in the social sciences. Given that every religion has a broad range of cultural resources and values that have formed the basis of personal and communal commitments, and which, in turn, can escalate, manage, or prevent conflict situations, we welcome contributions that deconstruct the role of religion in social conflict and political life. Religion and conflict, when taken together, raise more questions than answers. This issue of the JTPP will aim to both understand the current thinking about the intersection of religion and conflict and to explain the practical problems encountered by social practitioners and third-party professionals choosing religious narratives as a means of addressing and/or legitimising social grievances.

As always, the JTPP aims to foster exciting, innovative, and novel solutions to the wicked problems (Rittel & Webber, 1973) of our complex world. JTPP, a journal of cutting-edge research and practice on subjects related to human social flourishing and peace, published by Frontpage Publications Limited, UK welcomes ALL original contributions.

As partners with the Peace and Justice Studies Association (PJSA), we also encourage members to submit articles for consideration.

The realisation of nonviolent peaceful futures requires collaborative exploration of the complex social and cultural ideologies. No one field or discipline is fully capable of understanding these complicated phenomenon and interrelationships alone. JTPP encourages prospective authors to create the transdisciplinary spaces to discuss and analyse the world's most complex systems.

You are encouraged to send us a 250-word abstract of your proposed contribution to this call by **15 March 2020**. We will convey our decision within ten days. Final manuscripts should be between 6,000 and 8,000 words and will be due by **15 June 2020**.

All correspondence should be sent to submission@jtpuk.org. Kindly see the [Submission Guidelines](#) in [AUTHOR'S CORNER](#) for further specifics and style guide.

With metta (loving kindness) and in solidarity,



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Bibliography

Rittel, Horst W J & Webber, Melvin M, 'Dilemmas in a General Theory of Planning', *Policy Sciences* 4, No. 2 (June 1973), pp.155-169