Guidelines for Peace Insight contributors

Peace Insight is the leading resource on local peacebuilding. Alongside our database of peacebuilding organisations, Peace Insight articles share the latest updates, analyses and stories of local peacebuilding from around the world.

Thank you for your interest in writing for us!

Many of our articles are written by a group of regular contributors and correspondents from around the world, as well as other contributing writers.

All of our writers have experience of local peacebuilding through their own work, projects, or networks. Many have a background in writing or are trained journalists.

Read on to find out what we look for in guest posts, and how to submit an article.

Style and content

Uplifting: Much of the reporting on humanitarian aid and conflict paints a bleak picture. We make space for content that is optimistic, hopeful and looks to the future. We don’t wish to paint over the reality of war and injustice, but we look to the work taking place to create peace.

Succinct: We find that articles of around 800 words are the most successful, though we will occasionally publish posts of more than 1,000 words.

Accessible: While many of our readers are experts in aid and peacebuilding, we look for articles that are readable and accessible to all. Language should not be overly complex, and all acronyms or ‘sector’ terms should be explained. We highly recommend using the Hemingway App to improve readability.

Relevant: Most importantly, all articles for Peace Insight should be about local peacebuilding. This means any action by communities, civil society or local actors to build peace. Articles can of course refer to and reference events in conflict zones. However, they must also include elements of peacebuilding.

Creative: Most of our current content is written copy, in the form of opinion pieces, stories, or interviews. That said, we want to expand our portfolio of content to produce more video, audio materials and other forms of storytelling. We are always open to new ways of communicating about local peacebuilding, so don’t be shy to share your ideas.

Personal: We don’t have a standard perspective (e.g., second person “you”) in which to write articles. Rather, we encourage contributors to write in a style that feels appropriate to the content of their writing. For example, stories or interviews may flow better written in the first person (“I”), whereas third person (“they”) might be more appropriate for a more analytical piece.
Formatting

We aim to keep posts accessible and engaging by following these guidelines:

- **Clear structure**: all articles should have a clear introduction, as well as a concluding paragraph.
- **Sub-headings**: where appropriate posts will be broken up into headed sections.
- **Bulleted lists**: bulleted lists are preferred over lists of items in a paragraph.
- **Dates**: all dates should appear in the following format, e.g. 25th August 2021.
- **References**: where relevant, please add references and sources as hyperlinks and not footers.

**Images**: If possible, please provide images to include with your article. Please ensure your images are

- As high resolution as possible, at least 1,500 × 740 pixels.
- If images are not taken by you, please include any credit or copyright information to ensure Peace Insight can use all images legally and with the correct attribution.
- Photos to be used as article headers should be landscape in orientation.
- If you don’t have access to any suitable images, we can support with sourcing stock images, for example on [Unsplash](https://unsplash.com).

**Submission process**

**Before submitting an article, please send a summary or abstract of no more than 100 words for our review.** Please send your abstract to [sarah.phillips@peacedirect.org](mailto:sarah.phillips@peacedirect.org).

If we’d like to move ahead with your article, we will ask you to submit the full draft.

**To submit a completed article, please fill out this form**. You will be able to save your submission and come back to it.

Once you’ve sent us your article, our team will edit and make suggested changes and comments. We normally allow up to two rounds of feedback per article. The less edits required, the more likely it is we will publish your article.

We endeavor to respond to all submission requests, however due to the capacity limitations of our team, we cannot guarantee you will always hear back from us.

Following publishing, we ask that any reposts of your article link back to the original on Peace Insight.

**Sample posts**

- [Believing in change, the journey of a young peacebuilder](#)
- [The search for peace in Nigeria: My story](#)
- [Painting peace: Street art in Kyiv](#)
- [2021 is not about development. It is about peacebuilding](#)