

Preface

PRAXIS: *The Fletcher Journal of Human Security* aims to highlight critical issues within the field of international development and challenges both practitioners and scholars to broaden their approach with an interdisciplinary lens. The field of human security recognizes and builds upon the inter-connectedness between human rights, humanitarian assistance, international development, and conflict resolution. The challenge of such a dynamic and multi-faceted approach is remaining vigilant of how trends first emerge and how they become dominant. Consequently, whose stories are prioritized and whose may be left unseen? Our 2011 issue uncovers some of these unseen cross-cutting cases studies and offers thought-provoking implications for future field work as well as policy reform.

The first article by Corey Barr brings to light the prevalence of sexual and gender-based violence in the aftermath of conflict. Barr outlines the insertion of gender in the international sphere and argues that a gender-sensitive approach to bridging transitional justice and security sector reform is essential for sustainable and effective peacebuilding.

In our second article, Corey Cappelloni explores the possible negative consequences of migrating parents on the children left behind. Cappelloni focuses on the psychological, educational, and social impacts of migration on children and challenges policy-makers to weigh the role of remittances holistically, absorbing the short-term and long-term impact of migration on children and communities.

Our third article by Joshua Gross presents the complex relationship between peacebuilding practitioners, the U.S. government and non-state actors identified on U.S. terrorist lists. Gross uses the case study of the Maoists in Nepal to suggest that counterterrorism efforts prevented the U.S. from playing a more constructive role in the peace process. The article concludes with recommendations for legal reform around engaging individuals and/or groups identified on U.S. terrorist lists in order to allow for more flexibility in peacebuilding strategies.

Finally, the last article by Carrie Stefansky Huisman discusses the changing nature of masculinity in the Karamoja region of Uganda. Drawing from her direct field research, Huisman describes the role masculinity plays in pastoral cultures and how modern evolutions of this notion will have ripple effects for the future of Karamojong society.

The final section of the journal, Views from the Field, offers an opportunity for practitioners to reflect upon their daily experience of confronting realities around human security. Each featured author shares how their relationship with their environment and community enabled them to further identify and probe the unseen and perhaps at times even transition out of it. Sophia Dawkins presents a captivating narrative of a day in South Sudan, while Ariel Heifetz Knobel offers

reflections on peace without reconciliation from her research in Northern Ireland.

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