



Demographic and Health Consequences of Violence and Armed Conflict

July 1–2, 2025

Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR), Rostock, Germany 

Join us for a two-day symposium featuring global scholars from a variety of disciplines, including demography, public health, sociology, political science, and economics. Learn about research investigating the short- and long-term impacts of armed conflict and violence on mortality, migration, fertility, the environment, and population health. Contribute to the dialogue!

For more information: [Symposium Site](#) or COVACconference2025@demogr.mpg.de

Program At-A-Glance

Tuesday, 1 July 2025	
8:30–9:15 am	Registration
9:15–9:30 am	Welcome – <i>Emilio Zagheni</i> Opening Remarks – <i>Yvette Young</i>
9:30–11:00 am	Session 1 – Migration
11:00–11:30 am	Coffee Break
11:30 am–1:00pm	Session 2 - Mortality
1:00–2:00pm	Lunch
2:00–3:30 pm	Keynote Address (Live, online) – <i>Rita Giacaman</i>
3:30–4:00 pm	Coffee Break
4:00–5:00 pm	Session 3 – Social Consequences
Wednesday, 2 July 2025	
9:00–10:30 am	Session 4 – Fertility and Family
10:30–11:00 am	Coffee Break
11:00 am–12:30 pm	Session 5 – Physical and Mental Health
12:30–1:30 pm	Lunch Break
1:30–3:00 pm	Poster Session
3:00–4:00 pm	Keynote Address – <i>Patrick Heuveline</i>
4:00–5:15 pm	Symposium Social Networking Event
5:15–5:30 pm	Concluding Remarks – <i>Diego Alburez-Gutierrez</i>

Keynote Speakers:

Rita Giacaman, Professor of Public Health at the Institute of Community and Public Health, Birzeit University, Palestine. <https://icph.birzeit.edu/about/rita-giacaman>

Patrick Heuveline, Professor of Sociology at the University of California, Los Angeles. <https://soc.ucla.edu/person/patrick-heuveline/>

Paper Sessions:

Mortality

Session Chair: *Irena Chen*

Diego Alburez-Gutierrez, Enrique Acosta, Maria Gargiulo, and Catalina Torres. "Estimating the bereaved population due to conflict deaths and enforced disappearances in Colombia."

Alexander Ershov. "The Public Probate Registry as a Proxy for Absent Mortality Data During Ongoing Conflicts: A Case for Estimating War Fatalities in Russia."

Maria Gargiulo. "Assessing death data quality in violent contexts: A case study of the armed conflict in Colombia."

Signe Svallfors, Orsola Torrisi, Mónica L. Caudillo. "The impact of local violent crime on maternal mortality and morbidity in Mexico"

Migration

Session Chair: *Aliakbar Akbaritabar*

Sara Alcay, "The Impact of Migration for Humanitarian causes on Newborn Health in Latin America: Evidence to Support Human Rights Protection for Pregnant Migrants."

Alexey Bessudnov. "Emigration from Russia after 2022: Estimates and predictors from a nationally representative panel survey."

Stephanie Koning, Goleen Samari, Abigail Weitzman. "Latent, Chronic, and Imminent: A Typology of Threats Underlying Protracted Conflict Displacement."

Wolfgang Stojetz, Tilman Brück, Francisca Castro (presenting author), Hadi Jafaar. "Carrying the Past with you Across the Border: Long-term Effects of Conflict and Environmental Stress Exposure in Syria on Social Well-being of Refugees in Jordan."

Michael Zaslavsky and Aliakbar Akbaritabar. "Conflict-induced emigration of scientists from Ukraine to internal and international destinations."

Fertility & Family

Session Chair: *Ebru Sanliturk*

Victor Emmanuel, Emmanuel Olamijuwon, Katherine Keenan. "Rethinking Fertility Responses to Armed Conflict: A Critical Review of Conflict-Fertility Research in Low- and Middle-Income Countries."

Konstantin Kazenin. "Son preference after an armed conflict: the case of Armenian forced migrants in Azerbaijan."

Ismet Koc, Melike Sarac. "The Impact of Conflict-Induced Migration on Family Structure of Syrian Refugees in Turkey: A Comparative Analysis of Pre-Conflict and Post-Conflict Periods, 2006-2018."

Bussarawan Teerawichitchainan, Timothy Low Qing Ying (presenting author), Kim Korinek. "Grandparenting After War: Early-Life Trauma, Grandchild Care, and Cognitive Health in Vietnam."

Physical & Mental Health Consequences of Armed Conflict

Session Chair: *Yvette Young*

Tilman Brück, Piero Ronzani, Wolfgang Stojetz, Nadine Stammel, Maria Boettche, Diego Zardetto, Sarah Fenzl, Maen Salhab, Jessica M. Anderson, Arden Finn, Alia Aghajanian. "Depression in Palestine: A Matched Analysis Using Nationally Representative Survey and Conflict Event Data."

Fernanda Gutierrez Amaros. "Fuel Prices, Gang Violence, and Its Effects on Children's Health: Evidence from Mexico."

Tracy Lin, Saibou Doumbia, Kassoum Kayentao, Emily Treleaven. "Spatial and Temporal Impact of Violence on Healthcare Seeking Behavior and Healthcare Utilization in the Context of a Randomized Control Trial in Rural Mali."

Haftom Gebrehiwot Woldearegay, Hailay Gebretnsae, Abadi Kidanemariam Berhe, Mache Tsadik, Akeza Awealom Asgedom, Gebregziabher Berihu Gebrekidan, Gebru Hailu Redae, Tedros Bereket, Gebrekiros Gebremichael Meles, Mohamedawel Mohamedniguss Ebrahim, Mengistu Hagazi Tequare, Yemane Berhane Tesfau, Gebremedhin Gebreegziabher Gebretsadik, Muzey Gebremichael Berhe, Hagos Degefa Hidru, Meresa Gebremedhin Weldu, Micheale Hagos Debesay, Gebrehaweria Gebrekurstos, Reiye Esayas, Mulat Tadesse Weldu, Weldegerima Gebremedhin Hagos, Pammla Petrucka. "Performance of Reproductive, Maternal, and Newborn Health Services in Primary Health Care in War-Torn Tigray, Ethiopia: A Concurrent Mixed Method Study Following the Pretoria Peace Accord."

Lauren Nicole Yan, Rashelle Musci, Sarah Murray, Judith Bass, Wietse Tol, Fouad M. Fouad, Yusra Shawar. "Conceptualizing living conditions as epidemiologic exposures among displaced Syrians in Jordan: A factor analytic exploration of construct and measurement validity."

Social Consequences of Armed Conflict

Session Chair: Ana Cristina Gomez Ugarte Valerio

Mohammad Fazel Akbary, Dordana Rasa, Quanbao Jiang. "Armed Conflict and Intimate Partner Violence in Afghanistan: Examining Sociodemographic Disparities Among Couples-A Multilevel Analysis."

Liliana Andriano and Mathis Ebbinghaus. "The Long-Term Effects of Public Violence on Intimate Partner Violence: A Study of Pre-Marital Exposure to Boko Haram."

Olusegun Fadare, Marcella Vigneri, Olusegun Fadare, Karen Devries, Vegard Iversen, and Tilman Brück. "Past political violence and interpersonal violence against children and youth: Micro-level evidence from nine African countries."

Anastasiia Lutsenko. "Resilience Under Fire: A Close Look at the Productivity of Ukrainian Scientists in Wartime."

Poster Session

Ayşe Abbasoglu Özgören, Faruk Keskin, and Pelin Çağatay. "Forced Migration from Syria to Türkiye and Under-5 Mortality."

Istikhar Ali and Sanam Roohi. "'Jamia Nagar is a Muslim Ghetto': The Political Economy and Ecology of Displacement in Delhi."

Mark Gortfelder, Allan Puur, and Martin Klesment. "No Country for Young Men: Why the Baby Boom did not occur in Estonia."

Chandan Kumar. "Mortality and Morbidity Patterns Among Displaced Populations in India."

Jackson Mason-Mackay. "Monitoring refugee flows using Wikipedia data: Applications to Sudan's displacement crisis."

Seyoum Teffera Mengesha. "Beyond Conflict Intensity: Environmental Factors and Ethnic Polarization as Determinants of Population Displacement in Ethiopia."

Maia Sieverding. "The impact of conflict on early marriage in Yemen: A test of the insecurity mechanism."

Flori Tawelo and Franck Dianga Longe. "Impact of Armed Violence on Reproductive Health and Maternal Mortality in Conflict Zones of Eastern DRC."

Manon Tremouille. "The Impact of Political Crises on Migration: An Analysis of Afghanistan Since the Taliban Takeover."

Protus Musotsi Yabunga, Iris Lopes, Gimelgo Xirinda, Laura Nellums, and Elisa Sicuria. "Armed Conflict, Mental Health and Mental Health Help-Seeking. Evidence from Terroristic Insurgency in Mozambique. A Nation-wide Cross-Sectional Study."

Note: Presentations currently listed in alphabetical order.

Organizing Committee

The organizing committee includes the following individuals from the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR), the Population, Health and Armed Conflict (PHAC) Network, and the IUSSP Panel on Population Dynamics under Global Conflict and Climate Change: Diego Alburez-Gutierrez (MPIDR and PHAC), Stephanie Koning (PHAC), Kim Korinek (PHAC), Ebru Sanliturk (MPIDR), Nathalie Williams (PHAC), Yvette Young (MPIDR and PHAC), Emilio Zagheni (MPIDR and IUSSP).

