



**CAUX FORUM**

Developing Human Potential  
for Global Change

# TOWARDS AN INCLUSIVE PEACE

## 2017-2019

Human-centered  
approaches to addressing  
extremism of all kinds



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## About Towards an Inclusive Peace

Current approaches to violent extremism which excessively focus on counter terrorism and increasing military capacity, have failed to either stop violence or create peace. On the contrary, they have led to distrust in government institutions and alienation of large sections of the population.

Doubling down on these past approaches will not resolve the issue. A new approach is needed and Towards an Inclusive Peace can offer it. Come and learn about human-centred approaches that prioritize sustainable peace, while dealing with root causes, advancing human rights, strengthening communities and enabling development.

### What is

Towards an Inclusive Peace?

For over 70 years, peacebuilding has been high on the agenda in Caux. In 2017, we addressed for the first time the emergence of extremisms of all kinds in response to the world's current challenges. Towards an Inclusive Peace is a project led by young people trained in conflict transformation and benefits from Initiatives of Change (IofC) Switzerland's expertise in trust-building, facilitating dialogue bringing multi-sectoral and multi-cultural actors together, and personal transformation.

In comparison to many other efforts around the world, Towards an Inclusive Peace focuses on a **human-centred approach that recognizes human dignity**. By bringing together local-level grassroots peace builders from all over the globe and national and international policy makers at the special setting of Caux, we create an atmosphere that allows for learning and reflection.

Partner with Towards an Inclusive Peace today and contribute to advancing sustainable peace!

View of the Main Hall in the Caux Palace  
Credits: Maÿ Leyvraz



*"I should have come here first before launching the programme on Countering Violent Extremism, this was my thought after participating in the TIP Forum. Young people, academics and practitioners who are working to build inclusive peace and transform extremism created the right balance for generating conducive and creative dialogues. My biggest learning from the forum was about transformational justice for lasting sustainable peace."*

– Gulalai Ismail, Pakistan –  
Founder and Chairperson of Aware Girls

### Who is

Towards an Inclusive Peace **for?**

Towards an Inclusive Peace provides a space **where local, national and international actors can meet** to discuss violent extremism through a broader, peacebuilding lens. We believe in a community-based, human-centred approach built upon the principles of pluralism. To this end, we encourage peacebuilders at all levels, educators, local and national authorities, community leaders and civil society members and representatives to share their knowledge, learn from others and discuss context-specific strategies to address violent extremism.

### What does

Towards an Inclusive Peace **offer?**

Towards an Inclusive Peace serves as a **platform** for other like-minded organizations and individuals to come together and **share experiences and challenges**. The international community meets local communities and national actors with their contextualized knowledge. Learning for us is experiential, so we offer a **balanced combination of learning, analysis and reflection**.

At Towards an Inclusive Peace you find skills training on peacebuilding tools; critical analysis on the opportunities and limitations of such tools, informed by specific case-studies; and a combination of community discussions and silent reflection to allow for a holistic experience. You will walk out of Towards an Inclusive Peace having learned and experienced the strength of human connection. There are also multiple opportunities for storytelling.

## Objectives

Violent extremism is one of the most pressing issues of our time. It confronts us in our communities in unexpected ways and we reflexively accept simple explanations for this form of violence. In order to quell the violence and maintain security, we turn to conventional solutions such as increased militarization or increased use of force. However, these responses are often inadequate and disconnected from the affected communities. The situation can easily morph into essentializing narratives, social exclusion, political manipulation and racial or ethnic profiling, thereby weakening community relationships. **Towards an Inclusive Peace advocates for a different approach to violent extremism.**

It proposes a pluralistic view of the complex origins of violent extremism, a **human-centred approach** to the problem and the **use of peacebuilding tools**. This allows us to comprehensively deal with violent extremism by including the affected communities and focusing on the structural causes of the phenomenon.

This is called **transforming violent extremism**, a concept coined by the leading peacebuilding NGO Search for Common Ground. It allows us to listen to the voices of the communities, affected the most by violent extremism, to have a better understanding of the many issues that exist in these local contexts.



*“It was really reviving and inspiring.”*

– Nagia Abdelmoghney Said, Egypt

*“Challenging...and rewarding.”*

– Irene Edwards, UK



## What do You Get?

At Towards an Inclusive Peace you have the opportunity to share your work on peacebuilding and addressing violent extremism.

- You can showcase a particular project, conduct a training session on a specific tool, deliver an inspirational speech, or participate in one of our networking activities.
- You will have the opportunity to learn. Most conferences bring together like-minded participants and organizations working at the same level – local, national or international – on a particular issue. Such an approach limits the opportunity for cross learning, and most importantly, for understanding the barriers of your own method.
- At Towards an Inclusive Peace we convene a diverse range of presenters and participants. You will be challenged by unexpected perspectives and difficult questions from a broad range of participants, from everyday citizens to local leaders and renowned experts who will bring a fresh point of view to your work.
- We invite you to step outside your silos and experience the richness of the diversity we can offer you in Caux.

## How does Towards an Inclusive Peace work?

Towards an Inclusive Peace is a five-day event. Days start with silent reflection and end with cultural activities. From stimulating speakers, to illustrative skills workshops about peacebuilding tools, and networking spaces such as X-Change to share innovative ideas on local peacebuilding, the event provides different learning opportunities to reflect locally and globally. The participants' diversity of country, age, religion, gender and ethnicity are a testimony of Towards an Inclusive Peace's inclusivity.

## Where does Towards an Inclusive Peace take place?

The unique setting of the Caux Conference and Seminar Centre up in the mountains overlooking Lake Geneva provides a serene environment that allows for inspiration, reflection, meaningful conversations and selfcare, while building trust and horizontal relationships by serving others. This environment allows for deeper insights on the meaning of inclusion and human relationships, despite any cultural or other differences that exist between us.

# Towards an Inclusive Peace in Numbers

# 2018 2017

**153**  
**93**



Participants including 22 Caux Scholars

**44**  
**33**



Countries

**11**  
**2**



Workshops

**10**  
**6**



Speakers

**6**  
**6**

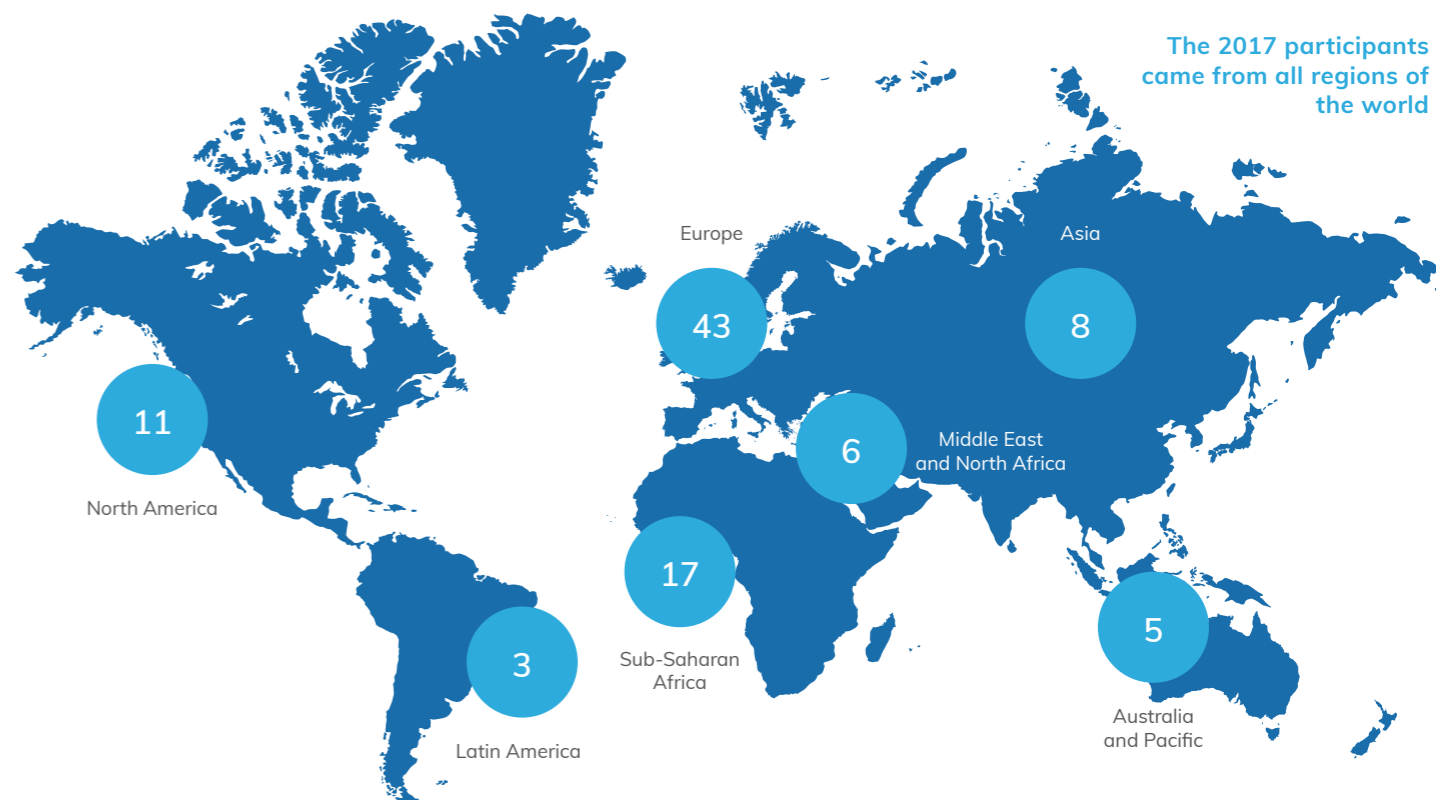
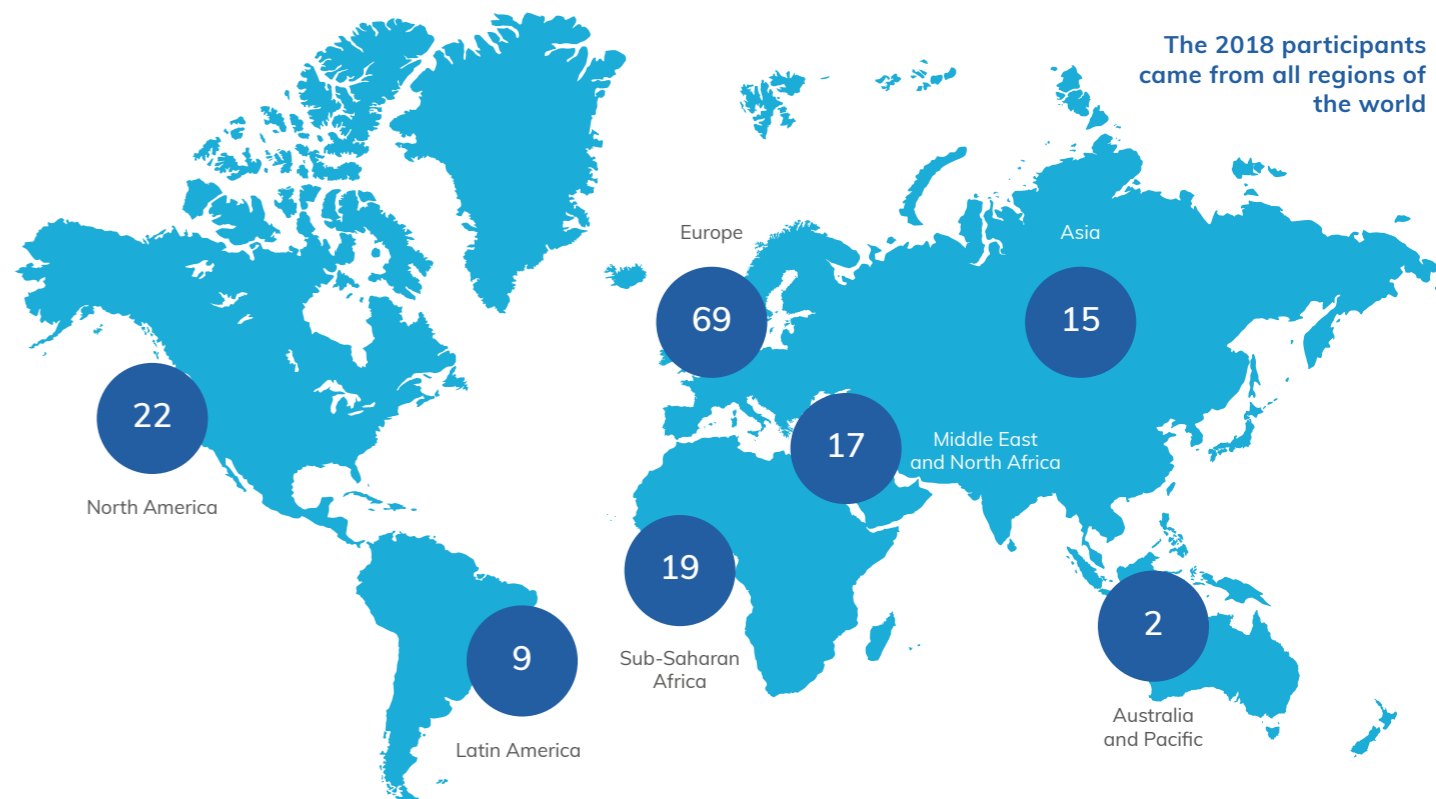
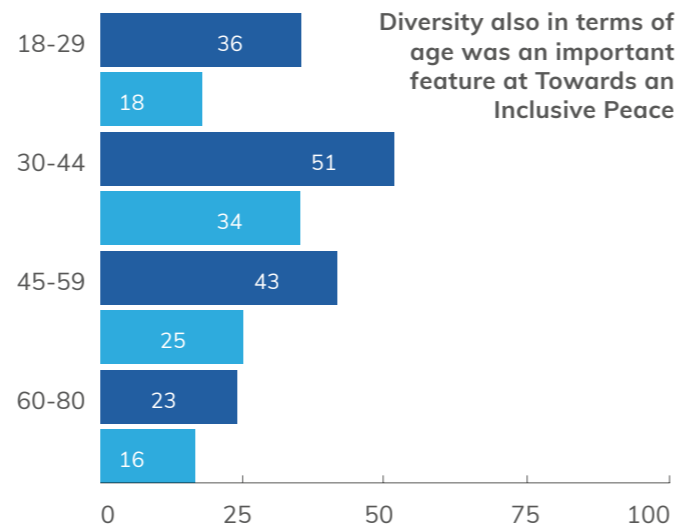
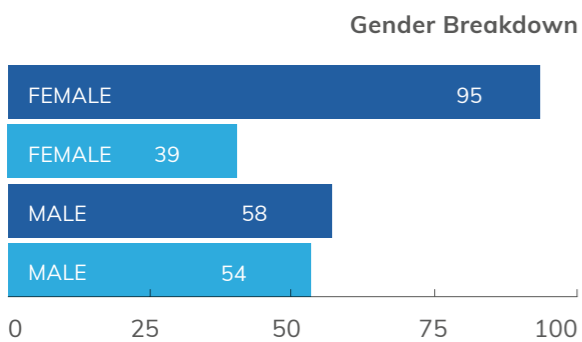


Community Groups

**5**  
**4**



Days



# Get Inspired, Equipped and Connected

## Inspire

As human beings we look for inspiration to move forward. Inspiration can be gained from those who surround us – their stories, initiatives and new ways to approach issues. Inspiration can also come from within. At Towards an Inclusive Peace we provide different settings to get inspired and further stimulate your own creativity. Speakers **share challenging yet enlightening moments** while community group time allows for gripping conversation as participants have the chance to reflect in a safe space and be inspired by others. Likewise, silent reflection by the Bay Window overlooking Lake Geneva, allows time to contemplate your own journey. These different sources of inspiration can provide new ways to approach your work and potentially spark new and creative ideas.

## Equip

Pursuing the goal of strengthening the capacities of all participants, Towards an Inclusive Peace provides **hands-on training modules** for people to acquire practical tools and valuable skills to build their capacities as peacebuilders, and engaged civil society actors. Different training sessions are offered at Towards an Inclusive Peace including dialogue, gender awareness, narrative analysis, ethics education, community-based indicators, selfcare tools and restorative circles, among others. While these sessions only provide a general overview, we are convinced that exposing participants to different peacebuilding tools successfully applied in diverse contexts, can provide a platform to generate ideas, initiatives and actions through which participants can constructively approach the challenge of dealing with violent extremism in ways other than through the security angle.

## Connect

Towards an Inclusive Peace is **a platform where people can meet and learn with and from others.** This allows us to bring about the change that we want to see in the world. Towards an Inclusive Peace offers informal and formal settings for connections that provide the chance to appreciate others or even start a life-long friendship. Informal settings include shared meals or a cup of tea or coffee, which allow people from all walks of life to meet and exchange ideas. Formal settings are specifically tailored for sharing such as X-Change, a platform to share creative ideas about how to address violent extremism through peaceful ways and the Peace Fair, which provides a space for professional networking where organizations, initiatives and participants can present their work and form partnerships.



Johannes Langer and Eliana Jimeno, Managing Directors of Towards an Inclusive Peace



*“To address violent extremism from a peacebuilding perspective, we need to address the issue of social justice which is often ignored. We need to move away from the security paradigm and use interfaith dialogue and other mechanisms to achieve peace.”*

*– Mohamed Abu-Nimer, Senior Advisor to the KAICIID Dialogue Center*





← TIP core team member Indee Thottawattage interviews two speakers, Amina Khalid from Initiatives of Change UK and Sergey Markedonov from the Gorchakov Fund

## Why Partner with us?

Towards an Inclusive Peace brings together committed peacebuilding organizations working at every level from the local to the international. You can be one of these organizations and join us in the effort to address violent extremism from a **conflict transformation, human-centred approach**. We offer your staff, fellows and/or beneficiaries the opportunity to take a step back from their daily routine and reflect on the work they have been implementing in different contexts. This reflection can be done while learning new tools and listening to different perspectives from different parts of the world. We can provide you with the possibility to link up with grassroots organizations from other countries across the globe. You can share your challenges and learnings in a safe environment and get meaningful feedback from people with a variety of backgrounds to strengthen your programmes in the field.

We also have the capacity to develop focused side-programmes. These side-programmes can be designed according to your needs or the needs of the participants or team members you sponsor. We are able to cater to your needs for reflection, facilitation, evaluation or planning. In this regard, Caux is a great venue thanks to its serene location up in the mountains overlooking Lake Geneva. You will play an active role in the design of the programme, with the support of our team of facilitators and trainers. If you would prefer that our team came to you, we can offer a training session or workshop. The IofC and the Towards an Inclusive Peace teams can advise on how to advance a human-centred approach in your organization and programmes, create an experiential space where you can practice and learn the power of personal reflection and story sharing to strengthen your team.

Some of the organizations that have already partnered with Towards an Inclusive Peace are:

- International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID)
- Center for Justice and Peacebuilding of Eastern Mennonite University
- International Civil Society Action Network (ICAN)
- Arigatou International
- Caux Scholars Program
- Initiatives of Change UK
- Institute of Cultural Affairs UK

If you want to be part of this growing network, please get in touch via:

[inclusivepeace@cauxforum.org](mailto:inclusivepeace@cauxforum.org)

→ Carl Stauffer, Associate Professor of Justice and Development Studies at Eastern Mennonite University's Center for Justice and Peacebuilding



## Our Journey so far

We launched **Towards an Inclusive Peace in 2017** with a discussion of the different forms of violent extremism. We began by exploring its root causes from six different perspectives: economy, environment, politics, race and ethnicity, gender and religion. The training component of the 2017 event centred on two tools—narrative analysis and community-based indicators.

Narrative analysis permits the **critical analysis of one-dimensional accounts of harm and violence** that provide simplistic explanations to complex problems. It is a tool to question the limitations of our socially constructed frames for understanding conflict and foreseeing peace. It enhances our capacity for dialogue and self-reflection through active listening and assertive communication. Narrative analysis is a powerful tool to understand both the objective and subjective root causes of what lies beneath extremisms of all kinds.

Community-based indicators are locally developed indicators that can **serve as early-warning mechanisms for violent extremism** and allow communities to develop context-specific responses to violence. This tool is rooted in the understanding that communities who face the challenge of extremism are the best situated to identify the social conditions that lead to the tensions that can later turn into violent conflict.

Community-based indicators allow peacebuilders to actively work with and integrate the knowledge of local leaders in the development of initiatives to address violent extremism. It acknowledges the agency of local communities while providing a tool for systematizing and monitoring peacebuilding programs. The information collected by these indicators provides insights into current situations and keys to future programme development.

# 2017



To learn more about our 2017 journey [click here!](#)



# 2018



To learn more about our 2018 journey [click here!](#)



Building on these conversations, **Towards an Inclusive Peace in 2018** delved further into the impact of violent extremism on local communities and how those communities can be restored, while bringing about justice. To discuss these points, we examined two new tools: restorative justice and selfcare.

Restorative justice challenges personal stereotypes about perpetrators and victims and it opens space to **rediscover the humanity in the other**. Restorative justice, is about actively engaging with the past, acknowledging the harm and having a future-orientated outlook that can potentially prevent such wrongdoing. The transformative nature of restorative justice can help reintegrate people who have been radicalized and heal victims, while questioning the very structures in society that contribute to people's radicalization. Using restorative justice to address violent extremism is a 'radical' proposition in and of itself, because it is based on a belief in the goodness of humankind and the possibility of transformation.

Peacebuilders are exposed to high levels of stress and secondary trauma, when working in conflict-affected settings. This can have an impact on their work and on their levels of empathic understanding. Hence, to be effective as peacebuilders, to be present and able to do the work required, we need to take of ourselves. This involves developing our own toolkit of selfcare, reflective and mindful practices.

The event explored the role of selfcare in peacebuilding, identifying different tools that can help assimilate the emotional impact of conflict, adapted to each person's needs, as a key aspect of sustaining a healthy community of peacebuilders.

In 2019 we will explore the three principles of prevention: inclusiveness, sustainability and context specificity, while also discussing the role of resilience in preventing societies from descending into crisis. We invite you to be part of this journey!



## Our Journey so far

### Restorative Justice Track

To read the focused reports about our partners **KAICIID** and **ICAN** at TIP please visit:



Interreligious Dialogue



Gender Perspectives



*“Trust is about humanizing, building relationships and promoting interactions to dispel myths about each other.”*

– David Smart, Superintendent in the National Counter-Terrorism Policing HQ, National Coordinator for Prevent in the United Kingdom



### Self Care Track

To read about **lofC approach** to starting with yourself, please visit:



lofC approach  
Change Within



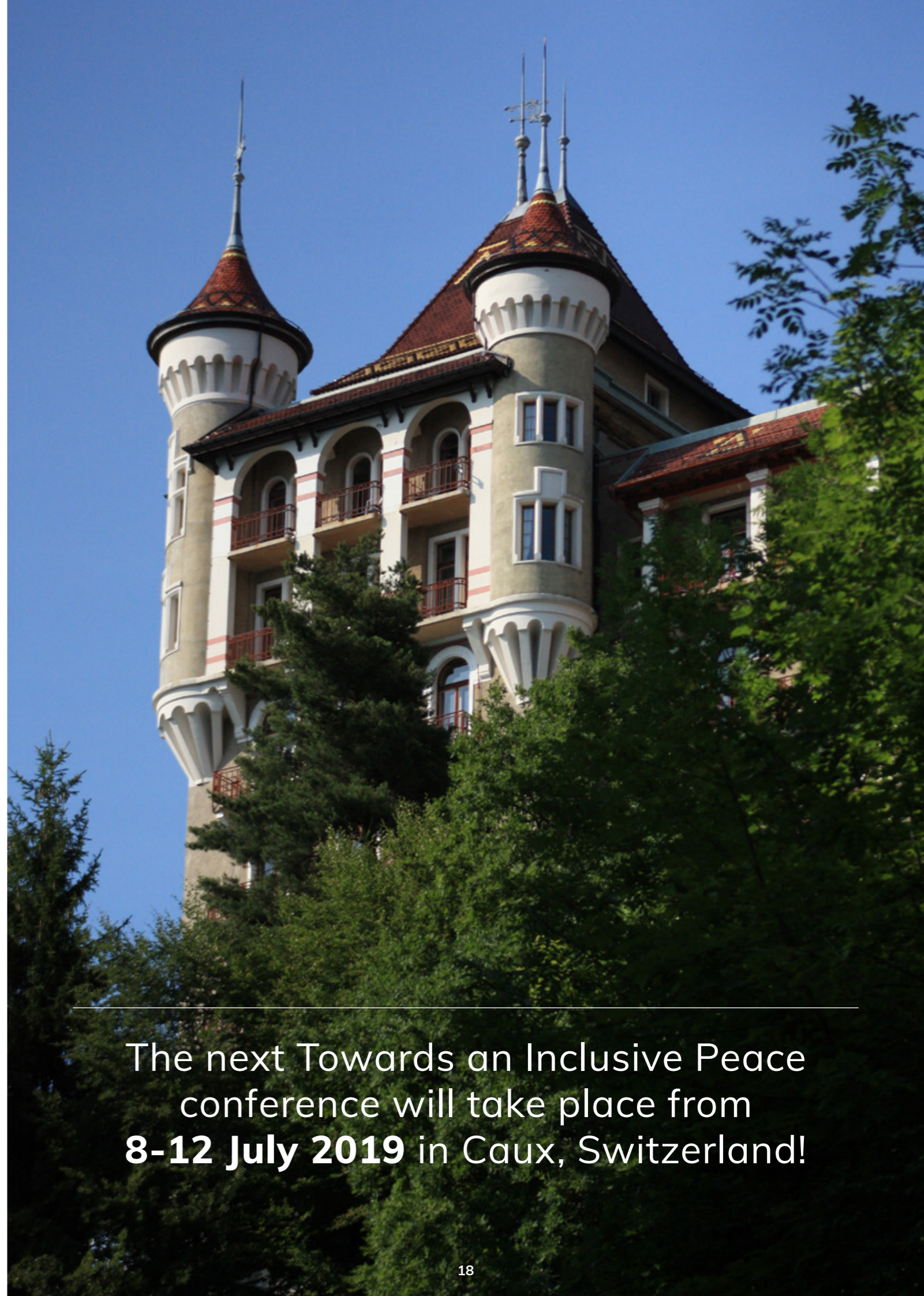
## Looking Forward to 2019

The case for bringing a **prevention** lens to violent extremism is clear: it **saves lives**. Lives that get lost as a result of direct violence, but also, lives that get lost because of inadequate access to education; structural racial, ethnic, gender and religious discrimination; exclusionary legislation and inefficient, corrupt institutions.

Addressing violent extremism at its roots, implies the recognition of the structural changes that need to take place to overcome these diverse forms of systemic exclusion, social disenfranchisement, and denial of opportunities that breed extreme violence in our societies.

To this end, Towards an Inclusive Peace 2019 will explore and critically discuss the four principles of prevention: **inclusiveness, sustainability, resilience and context-specificity**. We will focus on the role that resilience has in preventing societies from descending into crisis, including but not limited to violent extremism.

Join us to discuss this comprehensive and **human-centered** approach that considers not only the global but also the local perspective as essential to address the root causes of violent extremism, while being equipped with peacebuilding tools that aim at strengthening the skills, abilities and competences necessary to transform the root causes of extreme violence.



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The next Towards an Inclusive Peace conference will take place from **8-12 July 2019** in Caux, Switzerland!

# TIP Key Learnings

## Learning About Oneself

- We, as peacebuilders, are often working in difficult circumstances. It is sometimes hard to separate our own feelings from facts and realize what influences our decision-making process. Allowing space for self-reflection, as TIP provides, can help in making our decisions from a place of love, instead of a place of fear.
- Having positive and constructive dialogue and communication in our own environment can allow for further growth and channel good energy to the people we work with. In short, walk the talk.
- Topics like violent extremism bring a considerable risk of dehumanizing the other. Taking a reflective approach can help to appreciate the complex drivers that push people towards these groups, while not getting overwhelmed by their impact.
- Bearing in mind the context we find ourselves in before starting to address a conflict situation is key to understand it in all its dimension and key not fall into the trap of doing things the easy way.

## Learnings from the Community Group Time

- Showing emotions and being honest with oneself is also a part of self-care for peacebuilders. In a safe space, sharing one's innermost feelings allows for learning on a deeper level. As one participant says, "we break the hard rocks (loads), turning them into soft soil and fertile ground that allow flowers to emerge and grow".
- "There is a strength in the vulnerability of sharing" (TIP participant) that allows us to move away from the tunnel vision that we often face in our daily work.
- The possibility to step back and see other issues which are related can bring new insights that are further enhanced by the diverse age, religion, ethnicity and background of the participants in these community groups.



Having fun at our partner Arigatou International's training session on ethics in education



## Overall Learnings

Towards an Inclusive Peace has been described as "inspirational" and "eye-opening" because it provides participants with greater clarity on their purpose, as well incentives to be more innovative in their work. Here are other key learnings our participants highlight:

- With the disruptive narratives we are all dealing with in so many places around the world, perceptions are deeply rooted. We have a long way to go to transform this situation. Fortunately, we now have learn about various strategies to promote inclusion and understanding e.g., interfaith or inter-generational dialogue.
- Building trust in communities affected by extreme ideologies requires a holistic approach different stakeholders, from government officials to civil society leaders, from teachers to groups of youngsters, women and elders have a say in the design and implementation of community programs to address early expressions of extremism.
- It is necessary to have a "whole of society" approach and address the root causes of extremism, while strengthening the capacity of local communities to build resilience and actively participate in the implementation of programs that deal with exclusion, discrimination, intolerance and denial of equal rights.
- We need to change our paradigms of security and conflict. Bring people and the respect for their rights back to the centre of all programs that deal with violent extremism. To this end, dialogues about how we perceive the Other, about our fears, and about our pressing needs are a key tool to lead to better understanding about how extremism is manifesting in a certain community.



Chelsea Higgs presents the workshop "Disrupting Dominant Narratives: Racism in the United States" by Initiatives of Change USA and their Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation program (TRHT)





Thalia González, Associate Professor of Politics at Occidental College, addresses the audience on restorative justice practices



Lantana Abdullai, TIP 2018 participant and KAICIID fellow



## TIP 2018 Practical Takeaways

### On how to prevent violent extremism at the local level

By Gulalai Ismail | Founder and Chairperson of Aware Girls (AG) | Aware Girls' 5 strategies to Preventing Violent Extremism

1. Militants promote a uniform worldview. AG brings people from different faiths and worldviews together, giving them the opportunity to live the beauty of them.
2. Militants cut young people off from their own indigenous identities. AG helps young people celebrate their pluralistic indigenous culture and history.
3. Militants make young people feel worthy through Jihad. AG makes them feel valued by providing platforms and opportunities for building their own initiatives.
4. Jihadists offer only one kind of hero-the martyr. AG showcases indigenous heroes of non-violence and teaches them the value of non-violent heroism.
5. The triggers of radicalization are personal and recruiters know this. AG works with each person individually, providing opportunities for individual engagement.

### On how Restorative Justice (RJ) can contribute to dealing with violent extremism

By Thalia González | Associate Professor Politics at Occidental College and Senior Visiting Scholar at Georgetown Law

1. RJ interrogates the assumption that punitive justice approaches are the only or most appropriate response to bring about justice.
2. RJ can create a space for victims and perpetrators to (re)gain their sense of **identity as people** with a **rightful** place in the community.
3. RJ offers a conceptual framework to move beyond narrow "operational strategies" that focus on countering or preventing violent extremism, by understanding the response to this phenomenon as the process of building **sustainable just social relationships**.
4. RJ helps develop strategic points of integration for 'the creation of open, equitable and pluralist societies, based on the full respect of human rights', and the values of inclusion, encounter, reparation and reintegration.

### On examples of community Restorative Justice approaches to Violent Extremism

By Carl Stauffer | Associate Professor of Justice Studies at Eastern Mennonite University and Co-Director of the Zehr Institute for Restorative Justice

1. **Opportunities-focused approaches** – Expanding freedoms, choices and opportunities for people caught in violent extremism and avenues to redirect a life trapped in cycles of violence by offering realistic opportunities. e.g. "freedom fighters to community builders" – the South Africa case.
2. **Community-based approaches** – Therapeutic community, as opposed to individual therapist-client relationship, is the nucleus of the healing process in the community. e.g. ex-combatant reintegration in Sierra Leone.
3. **Culturally-mediated approaches to psycho-social interventions** – Combining local, indigenous and western knowledge systems to form psychosocial hybrid models for reintegration. e.g. Mozambique - Josina Machel Island.
4. **Whole systems approach** – Well-coordinated partnerships/collaborations between community, educational, religious, justice and security sectors. e.g. Introducing a peace curriculum in madrassas in Pakistan.



Members of the Caux Scholars Program 2018. 22 young leaders from 19 countries supported the Towards an Inclusive Peace team in 2018.



## An event led by young people, for the world

Towards an Inclusive Peace is led and organized by a group of young people from across the globe. Mostly contributing as volunteers, the members of the TIP team are global leaders, influencers, activists, scholars and practitioners who share their critical knowledge and experiences in addressing conflict of many kinds. Their roles in planning and delivering Towards an Inclusive Peace is made in the spirit of service, giving back to others and advancing peacebuilding from a human-centered approach.

Most team members are alumni of the Caux Scholars Program (CSP) in Caux, Switzerland or in Asia Plateau, India. The Caux Scholars Program is a month-long course for young leaders and practitioners focused on conflict transformation and leadership through experiential learning and active exchange.

The passion for peacebuilding and advancing sustainable transformation in their own communities

and in other conflict-affected areas is a key motivation of Towards an Inclusive Peace team members. We promote a human-centered approach to addressing conflict that prioritizes long-term peace. This means having a greater focus on addressing the root causes, respecting human rights, developing civilian capacity and an enabling environment for dialogue and common growth. Towards an Inclusive Peace is possible thanks to the work of 14 volunteers led by the two Managing Directors Eliana Jimeno and Johannes Langer who are also members of the Caux Scholars alumni network. In addition to them, 22 young leaders from the 2018 Caux Scholars Program brought a fresh and critical perspective to the issues discussed. Their participation as support team members allowed them to get hands-on experience by co-facilitating community groups, reporting on the training sessions and being active on social media. We are grateful for their enthusiasm and humbled by the lessons learned from them.

## The unique approach of the Caux Forum



### Storytelling

Caux encourages individuals to share their own stories to inspire others. This personal exchange of experience and insight is common to all our main events, dialogues and training programmes. It has proved a powerful tool for enabling honest conversations, building trust and igniting personal inspiration and action.



### Time to Reflect

In today's fast paced environment, Caux offers the opportunity to slow down, to experience silence, and to reflect on what truly matters. The stunning view of Lake Geneva and the surrounding mountains provides a wonderful backdrop for inner listening and the search for wisdom.



### Serving the Community

Participants are invited to contribute to the tasks involved in running the conference centre. This gives them a unique way to connect with each other in a more informal setting, places everyone on an equal footing and breaks down silos.

## Contact

Towards an Inclusive Peace Secretariat C/O Initiatives of Change Switzerland

Rue de Varembe 1  
CH-1202 Geneva  
Switzerland

[www.caux.ch/towards-inclusive-peace](http://www.caux.ch/towards-inclusive-peace)

[inclusivepeace@cauxforum.org](mailto:inclusivepeace@cauxforum.org)

+41 (0)22 749 1620

+41 (0)22 733 0267

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Report written by Eliana Jimeno  
and Johannes Langer  
TIP Managing Directors

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Conference and Seminar Centre  
Rue du Panorama 2  
CH-1824 Caux  
Switzerland

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