



CENTRE FOR PEACE &
CONFLICT STUDIES

6Cs for Peacebuilding in 2024

It's tempting to frame our conversations around the lingering impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, but as peacebuilders, we need to move beyond that. While the pandemic has undeniably reshaped our world, it's crucial to recognize that other pressing issues demand our attention. The "C" has dominated our vocabulary - COVID, Conflict, Crisis, Climate Change - but let's focus on the Cs that will guide us forward.



Critical Analysis

Now more than ever, conflict analysis is crucial. We must strategically allocate our energy and resources. Are we truly addressing the root causes of conflict, or are we engaging in activities that merely provide a sense of comfort without creating real change?

The global landscape is shifting. China's growing influence, power dynamics surfacing in the US and elsewhere (think Kashmir, the China-India border, the DPRK), ongoing conflicts in Myanmar, and the evolving situation in Afghanistan all demand a reassessment of our approaches. We need to analyse these changes and adapt our peacebuilding strategies accordingly. The silver lining? Technology allows us to connect with individuals and communities in ways never before possible.



Creativity

The pandemic forced us to rethink traditional peacebuilding methods. We've learned that building trust and developing strategies doesn't always require in-person interaction. Virtual platforms have enabled us to connect with colleagues and communities across the globe. But we must push our creativity further. How can we leverage technology for more effective movement building? How can we reach those previously inaccessible due to political barriers?



Collaboration

The need for deep collaboration is paramount. We must acknowledge that we are not alone in this work. Identifying and connecting with other actors in the peacebuilding space is essential. Sharing knowledge, coordinating efforts, and fostering genuine partnerships will amplify our impact. COVID-19 and rising global tensions may seek to divide us, but through collaboration, we can overcome these challenges.



Courage

In this era of constant connectivity and information overload, finding inner calm and focus is a challenge. We must prioritize our well-being and make conscious choices about where to invest our energy. This requires courage – courage to navigate the noise, to stay true to our mission, and to lead with clarity and conviction.



Consolidation

The economic ramifications of recent global events are significant. We must consolidate our resources – financial, human, and organizational. This might involve difficult decisions, but it's vital for long-term sustainability. Donors need transparency about how we are adapting and maximizing resources. We need to support our teams and ensure their well-being.



Celebration

Amidst the challenges, celebrating our achievements, both big and small, is crucial. It's a reminder of the positive impact we are making. Cultivating a mindset of hope and gratitude sustains us and reinforces our commitment to peacebuilding. Find joy in the everyday and celebrate the resilience and dedication of the peacebuilding community.

About the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies

The Centre for Peace and Conflicts Studies (CPCS) is a Cambodia-registered, regionally focused nongovernmental organisation which invests in Leadership and Facilitation for Lasting Peace in Asia. CPCS is committed to strong partnerships with people living in conflict systems and the external actors who are invested in sustainable peace. Our interventions emphasis analysis and facilitation of peace processes, cultivating transformation peace leadership, and the nexus of learning and practice to influence conflict transformation approaches.

CPCS is a value-driven organisation, and our core values guide us in making decisions and designing interventions.

Our values are:



Grounded:

We are committed to mindful interventions into violent conflicts. We design conflict transformation initiatives rooted in the critical and on-going analysis.



Courageous:

We embrace challenges, innovate, persevere, and push boundaries. We support and encourage others and ourselves to take the initiative and leadership.



Excellence:

We are committed to outstanding work. We strive to be excellent by challenging ourselves to ongoing improvement in our work.



Continued learning:

We critically reflect, evaluate, and adapt our methods, programmes, and goals. We share our learning and learn from the approaches and experiences of others.



Trust:

We create and nurture relationships with our partners and each other. Our relationships are honest, generous, heartfelt, and respectful. We practice humility, empathy, and solidarity. We value diversity.