



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Alternative Dispute Resolution, 25+ years later:

Lessons Learned, Impact, and Future Directions

The 31st Annual Africa & Diaspora

International Conference

APRIL 27-29, 2023

SACRAMENTO, CA, USA

Please note that conference location and presentation format may change due to the prevailing COVID-19 pandemic related public health conditions and domestic/international travels restrictions.

ORGANIZED & HOSTED BY:

The Center for African Peace & Conflict Resolution (CAPCR)
and California State University of Sacramento

In Collaboration with the Social Science Research Council's (SSRC's)
African Peacebuilding Network (APN) ; and
The Institute of Peace & Conflict Resolution-Nigeria(IPCR);

PROGRAM CHAIR AND CONTACT INFORMATION:

Prof. Ernest Uwazie (Chair) & Prof. Data Barata (Co-chair)

Center for African Peace and Conflict Resolution California State University,
Sacramento USA

Direct email: Uwaziee@csus.edu/dbarata@csus.edu

CAPCR Email: capcr@csus.edu

Re: CAPCR Conference 2023 -CFP

**ABSTRACT DEADLINE EXTENDED to
December 1, 2022.**

Conference Registration Now Open



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The Center for African Peace & Conflict Resolution (CAPCR) at California State University, Sacramento in collaboration with the Social Science Research Council's African Peacebuilding Network (APN), Institute of Peace & Conflict Resolution-Nigeria, invites individual paper and panel submissions for its 30th annual conference. The 31st anniversary theme— ***Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), 25+ years Later: Lessons Learned, Impact, and Future Directions***— aims to examine, analyze and/or evaluate the development and status of the various ADR projects and programs in Africa & diaspora, both formal and informal institutions, court annexed/connected, community, education, civil society, commercial/business and private systems. By ADR, we refer to alternative mechanisms for dispute settlement or resolution outside of the formal litigation or adjudication system, to include but not limited to negotiation, mediation, arbitration, conciliation, early neutral case evaluation, and settlement conferences, or any hybrid process. The conference is intentionally designed to document ADR developments and impacts as well as best practices since the CAPCR's 1996 inaugural ADR Training of Trainers for West African legal professionals. Since the 1996 landmark project with multiplier effects and following the related 2014 book publication-ADR and Peacebuilding in Africa-there is still much to learn and examine about contemporary ADR — as an ***African*** or ***appropriate*** dispute resolution system: from the Court connected Multidoor Courthouse in Nigeria, to the Ghana 2010 ADR Act 798, and Act 159 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, along with many other major or landmark ADR developments (legislations, rules, programs, institutions, etc) in many countries throughout Africa.

The analysis or discourse will include the place, status or role, impact and utilization of different ADR mechanisms or processes in addressing interpersonal, family, community, business/commercial, environmental/public policy conflicts, and the intersectionality of restorative justice. It will also explore the use of ADR mechanisms and processes in addressing constitutional crises as well as communal and electoral disputes. This conference also pays attention to the congruence between types of conflict and security and specific ADR tools, including how they can flexibly respond to changing socio-economic and cultural dynamics, including regional dynamics and globalization.

While Africa as a continent has undoubtedly experienced significant global challenges, nations, communities, businesses, and individuals have developed or used ADR to promote peace, stability, and security as well as manage complex relations.

The roots of conflicts and violence in Africa are deep, complex, and embedded in the interplay of historical, contemporary governance and leadership dynamics. Although the continent's peace index has increased in the recent decade, with significant reduction of violent conflicts or civil wars pre-2000's, along with democratization achievements, there is still great need for building the next generation of peace leaders and sustainable systems for peace and prosperity. The recent military coups in Mali, Burkina Faso, Guinea, and Sudan, along with the increasing impact of climate change and changing demographics in the continent pose great challenges for ADR and related peace and conflict resolution systems. The presentations at this conference will engage with

questions such as: What is the role of ADR in Africa's conflict landscape? What key ADR lessons have we achieved in the last 25+ years or so? What is the role or experience of the legal profession, civil society organizations and business sector in ADR? Does ADR cost more or less than litigation? What are the experiences of satisfaction of disputants in ADR? What are the limits and possibilities of ADR environmental justice and public policy disputes? What are the ADR outcomes in self vs. court case referrals? What are the effective ADR designs or systems in the face of changes in Africa's conflict, peace, and security landscapes? What are the best ADR training and practice standards? How do you promote/enforce quality assurance in ADR practice? How do we prepare the next generation of peace leaders via ADR and connect their work to broader transitional justice, sustainable development, and peacebuilding frameworks? What are the lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic for both ADR practice and training?

We welcome presentations, papers and panels featuring **Case Studies**, conceptual approaches and frameworks, comparative studies, gendered and practitioner reflections. We are especially interested in papers/panels that address one or more aspects of the conference theme, both broadly and specifically.

The conference closing peace awards will be held on the evening of April 29th, 2023, and be part of a fundraising effort for CAPCR's Africa Peace Fellows Initiative—for building the next generation of peace leaders.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION:

The conference planning committee welcomes individual paper presentations and panel proposals, provided a panel does not exceed 4 presenters, in each panel. For individual papers, no more than 3 authors/ presenters will be accepted for each paper proposal. Each person is limited to only 2 presentations, as individual or co-presenter in the conference.

Please include the title, your name, current position, institution/organization, mailing address, email, best telephone number with your 150-word abstract in publishable quality email to capcr@csus.edu For additional information visit us at: <https://www.csus.edu/center/african-peace-conflict-resolution/>.

We expect the full conference paper by March 30, 2023, for the conference presentation!

Proposals and presentations in English are preferred, but we will be able to accommodate French, Portuguese, and Spanish speakers.

REGISTRATION:

When you are notified of your proposal acceptance via email, the conference organizers will provide you with information about registration payment, hotel, transportation, and other related information.

Participants are responsible for paying the conference *nonrefundable* early bird registration fee of \$125.00 USD (per person), payable upon the acceptance of your proposal and as a condition of the inclusion in the conference preliminary program in February 2023. The registration price will increase by \$15 USD (\$140) after March 1st,

2023. Participants will be responsible for their travel costs (flight and lodging) and related conference costs, unless otherwise notified by the conference or CAPCR leadership.

PUBLICATION:

Our hope is to publish an edited volume of the conference papers with Cambridge Scholars Publishing (under discussion). Upon selection of your full paper for publication, we will provide you with relevant additional information about the manuscript publication, including publisher, format, deadlines, and related instructions.