



Editorial

The Pendulum Movement of Conflict, Gender, Environment, and Peacebuilding

Doi: <https://doi.org/10.59514/2954-7261.3102>

The beginning of 2023 brought pendular news on conflict and peacebuilding, the subject of the dossier of the Calarma Journal Number 2. On the one end, the war between Ukraine and Russia, one of the most Global since World War II, commemorates a year of confrontation with 300,000 military and 18,000 civilian deaths (Maguey, 2023) caused by the bombings and the clash of the infantry between the sides in contention. Moreover, this is one of the 32 active conflicts disclosed by the Escola de Cultura de Pau of the Autonomous University of Barcelona in its 2021 report on conflicts, human rights, and peacebuilding (Navarro et al., 2022). It already reported the confrontation between the pro-Russian separatist militias in the Donetsk and Lugansk regions supported by Russia and the State Armed Forces under the new pro-European authorities, which hinted at where it was going to escalate, that is, to the war that the media show today.

An equally negative outlook is estimated in environmental matters. Chile, Paraguay, Bolivia, Argentina, Chile, and Peru have experienced mega-droughts affecting 41% of their territories (Venera Salazar, 2023), and in Spain, Italy, and France, local governments have been forced to restrict the use of water (Redacción Medioambiente, 2023), due to the scarcity of rain, heat waves, the disappearance of rivers, and a significant reduction in the levels of the reservoirs in winter! An unusual season for this climate crisis to occur.

Regarding gender, the report on world inequality for 2022 indicates that the participation of women in total labor income has approached 30% and currently stands at less than 35%. This data shows slow progress in gender income equity (Chancel, 2022).

On the other end, the pendulum shows hopeful news. More countries, such as Brazil and China, want to mediate for the cessation of hostilities between the Russian and Ukrainian armies, and citizen demonstrations demanding dialogue and the war's culmination are more frequent. In Colombia, it is encouraging that Total Peace, President Gustavo Petro's plan to

pacify the country, has been welcomed by more than 25 armed groups, including guerrillas and criminal gangs, and that Buenaventura, a town in the southwest has seen a decrease from 25 homicides a month to two in September 2022 (Díaz, 2022), thanks to non-violence consensus among youth gangs.

Added to these encouraging actions are the expressions of millions of people who are aware of the conservation and preservation of the environment as well as the need to stop the extractivist and semi-enslaving economic model. Furthermore, many governments are incorporating gender equality into their development plans so that women enjoy equal income and political and cultural participation.

This issue of the Calarma Journal highlights and vindicates the work of academics who, through their research and reflections, contribute to diagnose the origins of conflicts and to build peace from various epistemological frontiers and looking at the news' pendulum in perspective, that is, knowing in advance that only with a rigorous and committed analysis of the past and present is it possible to foresee alliances and solutions for the future. Therefore, the reader will find the contributions of the arts, history, law, psychology, communication, and development studies for a kaleidoscopic understanding of our time's political, economic, cultural, educational, and environmental challenges.

Lizandro Angulo Rincón, Ph.D.
Editor

References

- Chancel, L. (2022). *Informe sobre la desigualdad global 2022*. Laboratorio mundial de desigualdad, 2021. <http://wir2022.wid.world>
- Díaz, D. (2022, October 5). La paz total da sus primeros pasos en Buenaventura. *El País de España*, 2. <https://elpais.com/america-colombia/2022-10-05/la-paz-total-da-sus-primeros-pasos-en-buenaventura.html>
- Maguey, H. (2023, February 20). Un año de invasión en Ucrania. *Gaceta UNAM*, 3. <https://n9.cl/fb1qb>

-
- Navarro, I., Royo, J. M., Urgell, J., Urrutia, P., Villedas, A., & Villedas, M. (2022). *Alerta 2022! Informe sobre conflictos, derechos humanos y construcción de paz*. Escola de Cultura de Pau. <https://escolapau.uab.cat/img/programas/alerta/alerta/22/alerta22.pdf>
- Redacción Ambiente. (2023, March 2). En Europa preparan restricciones ante fuerte temporada de sequía. *El Espectador Digital*, 2. <https://www.elspectador.com/ambiente/en-europa-preparan-restricciones-ante-fuerte-temporada-de-sequia-noticias-hoy/>
- Venera Salazar, S. A. (2023, March 2). Megasequías e incendios forestales azotan varios países de América Latina. *El Tiempo Digital*, 2. <https://www.eltiempo.com/mundo/latinoamerica/megasequias-e-incendios-forestales-azotan-varios-paises-de-america-latina-746515>

