



Making Peace Possible



About USIP

The United States Institute of Peace is a national, nonpartisan, independent institute, founded by Congress and dedicated to the proposition that a world without violent conflict is possible, practical, and essential for U.S. and global security. In conflict zones abroad, the Institute works with local partners to prevent, mitigate, and resolve violent conflict. To reduce future crises and the need for costly interventions, USIP works with governments and civil societies to build local capacities to manage conflict peacefully. The Institute pursues its mission by linking research, policy, training, analysis, and direct action to support those who are working to build a more peaceful, inclusive world.

WHAT USIP DOES

- ▶ Serves as a nonpartisan government partner and trusted intermediary among foreign governments, civil society, and U.S. government officials.
- ▶ Works in conflict zones at the community level and with national and regional governments, with a focus on connecting top-down and bottom-up initiatives.
- ▶ Applies research through training, education, policy recommendations, and application of best practices.
- ▶ Draws on its exceptional convening power to bring together diverse audiences to exchange knowledge and ideas necessary for developing solutions to the most pressing peace and security challenges.

IMPACT: ADVANCING PEACE AND U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY

- ▶ Across **Africa, Asia, and the Middle East**, USIP supports a global network of young civil society leaders working for peace. Since 2014, the Generation Change program has trained almost 300 youth leaders from 27 countries. These young leaders have engaged over a million citizens across their communities.
- ▶ In **Colombia**, USIP is supporting the pursuit of political consensus around the implementation of the 2016 FARC peace accord through its partnership with the country's congressional peace commissions. The Institute is also providing technical assistance and galvanizing civil society engagement toward a negotiated agreement with the remaining ELN rebels and continuing its commitment to training and empowering grassroots youth, women, and religious leaders.
- ▶ In **Iraq**, USIP and its partners are facilitating reconciliation dialogues to heal the deep divides left by the ISIS occupation. The dialogues have led to six accords, which have permitted the return of more than 800,000 displaced Iraqis and prevented recurring cycles of violence.
- ▶ In **Nigeria**, USIP helps communities, local and national governments, and regional bodies manage the increasingly violent farmer-herder conflicts over scarce resources. With traditional systems of conflict resolution overwhelmed, the Institute is developing more effective ways of resolving conflicts that plague the country and the surrounding region.

Founded in 1984, USIP is funded by Congress and governed by a 15-member, bipartisan Board of Directors. The Institute's teams work in many of the world's most volatile regions. In 2011, USIP moved to its permanent home on the northwest corner of the National Mall.

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- ▶ In **Washington**, USIP facilitates bipartisan commissions—at the request of Congress—on the toughest policy issues, including how to address the underlying causes of extremism in fragile states and policy options for the complicated conflicts.
- ▶ USIP researches policy options for the U.S. government to avert or end violence. Recent research focuses on global and regional interstate competition, particularly a rising **China** and a more assertive **Russia**, as well as on the risks from **North Korea**.

PRIORITIES: MAKING PEACE POSSIBLE

Amid escalating disorder and a rapidly evolving strategic landscape, USIP is focusing on the rising complexity of violent upheavals in fragile states, particularly those stemming from the destabilizing roles of competing powers and rising competition for scarce resources. The Institute continues to focus on conflict areas that are of the greatest concern to U.S. national security interests and values, and in which USIP has built expertise and partnerships for more than three decades.

The Institute prioritizes:

- ▶ Continuing its fieldwork to help fragile states and their citizens develop capacities to **reduce and resolve violent conflicts**. Based on their **importance to U.S. national security** and implications for regional and international peace and security, current priority countries include Afghanistan, Burma, Iraq, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Tunisia.
- ▶ Sharpening its focus on the destabilizing impact of **regional and major power competition** in fragile states, with a renewed emphasis on Russia and China.
- ▶ Sustaining USIP's field operations to **reduce violence in fragile states** while augmenting its **unofficial dialogues and analysis** work on areas of rising danger.

