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Rethinking peacebuilding: Beyond the crisis of the liberal peace

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The field of peacebuilding stands at a conceptual and political crossroads. The liberal peace framework, long the dominant model guiding international intervention and post-conflict reconstruction, has come under sustained critique for its normative assumptions, limited inclusivity, and uneven outcomes. Yet, while the crisis of liberal peacebuilding is widely recognized, what comes next remains underexplored. This panel brings together contributions that examine how peace can be reimagined in light of shifting global, regional, and local realities. It considers how emerging security concerns, questions of justice and reconciliation, youth and civic engagement, and alternative political orders reshape both the imaginaries and practices of peace. Encouraging innovative, critical, and regional non-western perspectives, the panel seeks to open new pathways for thinking about peace beyond the liberal paradigm, toward more plural, performative, and adaptive understandings of peace in contemporary global politics.

Track Classification: Peacekeeping, Peacebuilding and Human Rights Working Group