

## CONCEPT

Peace studies and conflict transformation is a recognized relevant field in several countries. It is based on interdisciplinary methodologies and it contributes to the development of new researches and practices to promote new approaches to peace on many levels (grassroots, social, governmental, global). It is a field of studies, research and teaching directly connected with practices, following also the concept of a civil engagement education.



In Moldova peace studies and conflict transformation do not receive great attention at the universities and just few curricula are focused on peace theories, methodologies, peacebuilding, conflict prevention, etc. In addition, very little connections are present between universities and the NGOs working on peace and related issues.



## PROJECT BACKGROUND

In 2012 researchers of Moldo-Austrian Centre for Peace Initiatives, Democratic Changes and Conflict Resolution (CPI) and didactic staff of the International Relations Chair (FRISPA, Moldova State University) together with Centro Studi Difesa Civile (CSDC), Italy, and in cooperation with professors of Free International University of Moldova (ULIM), University Perspectiva Int., Balti State University, Comrat State University, USEM, IRIM and representatives of NGOs from the Republic of Moldova (CReDO, Institute for Law and Civil Society from Tiraspol, Hilfswerk Austria) have launched a common initiative of creation and consolidation of linkage between academic and non-governmental sector within Peace Scholars and Practitioners National Network focused on peace studies and conflict resolution.



The mission of project is to contribute to the development of peace studies in the Republic of Moldova and to promote peace education and culture. We rely on the following principles:

- Introduction of peace studies in university curricula;
- Formation and promotion of peace culture in the Republic of Moldova by all possible means- research, training, practical involvement;
- Change of the attitude regarding the conflict resolution, focusing on peaceful settlement;
- Mobilization and involvement of the academic environment, NGO, state structures and citizens in the process of a sustainable peacebuilding.

## PROJECT ACTIVITIES

### 2013-2014

- **21 May 2014** – Round table "*Peace Studies Scholars Network: contribution to conflict solution*" – results of essay contest in Peace and Conflict Studies field
- **November 2013-February 2014** – essay competition in Peace and Conflict Studies for students of Moldova State University, FIRPA, State Universities of Balti and Comrat, University ULIM and Perspectiva INT.
- **10 October 2013** – round table "*Studying Peace and Conflicts*", - presentation of Bachelor and Master work papers in domain of Peace and Conflict Studies
- **May 2013-October 2013** – competition of bachelor and master work papers in domain of Peace and Conflict Studies for students and MA students of Moldova State University, FIRPA, State Universities of Comrat and Balti, University ULIM and Perspectiva INT, Institute of Law and Civil Society, Tiraspol.



### 2012-2013

- **25 April 2013** – round table "*Peace and Conflict Studies in the Republic of Moldova*"
- **9 February 2013** – round table "*University and NGO collaboration in peace studies and conflict resolution promotion in Moldova*"

- **25-26 October 2012**– inter-university theoretical-methodologic seminar “*Peace studies development in the Republic of Moldova*”
- **28-29 June 2012** – theoretical-methodologic seminar “*Curricula Development in Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution*”



## PROJECT RESULTS

- Establishment of a International Peace Scholars and Practitioners Network;
- Establishment of new peace studies curricula;
- Non-governmental-academic joint seminars;
- Edition of theoretical and methodological Guide on Peace and conflict Studies in University Curricula;
- Web-portal on peace studies and practices in Moldova [www.peacebuilding.md](http://www.peacebuilding.md).



Within the framework of the international project “*Moldovan Peace Scholars and Practitioners Network*” the online platform specialized in Peace and Conflict Resolution Studies was created and consolidated with an active participation of all the Moldovan Universities, local NGOs and international partners.

The aim of the webpage [www.peacebuilding.md](http://www.peacebuilding.md) is to facilitate the free access to the analysis made in academic media and NGOs from both banks of Nistru/Dniestr River and to encourage the development of international network of Universities and NGOs interested to take part to research and educational projects in the field of Peace and Conflict Studies.



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## International project Phase II

### “*Moldovan Peace Scholars and Practitioners Network*”

### PEACE STUDIES IN MOLDOVA: HISTORY AND REALIZATION



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