

Call for Papers and Participation

Sacred Bubbles: Art, Faith, and Peace Conference

Exploring creative paths to transformative social change and their ripple effects

Date: 1 March 2025 | **Location:** LCC International University, Klaipeda, Lithuania

Host: Center for Dialogue and Conflict Transformation

“PEACE CULTURES thrive on and are nourished by visions of how things might be, in a world where sharing and caring are part of the accepted lifeways for everyone. The very ability to imagine something different and better than what currently exists is critical for the possibility of social change.” – Elise Boulding, *Cultures of Peace* (2000, p.29)

In times of political, cultural, and ecological turmoil, individuals yearning for positive change often find themselves isolated in bubbles of identity, thought, and action. The challenge of bridging these divides requires vision — a creative and collective reimagining of peace that transcends isolation and inspires meaningful, lasting change. At the heart of this journey is the power of art to help us explore constructs created by theory and faith, to deepen our understanding of what it means to act in service of peace, enabling us to see what is often hidden and to find new pathways to collective healing and transformation.

This **one-day learning journey conference** will bring together scholars, artists, community activists, and practitioners to explore how art, vision, and spirituality can serve as powerful tools for peacemaking in an increasingly fragmented world. Often seen as sacred bubbles, how might their ripple impacts be threads that weave society and communal life? Through a dynamic blend of **academic** inquiry, research, **creative** workshops, and **collective** movement that engages in exploration of burning issues and group engagement, we aim to explore how we can localize learning and inspire new forms of agency within communities facing conflict and disarray.

We seek submissions of research questions that challenge and expand our understanding of peacemaking through art, communication, and faith. How can these practices help us envision a world beyond divisive identity narratives and individual isolation? What are the roles of art and faith in shaping an enabling environment that nurtures individual and collective visions of peace, and how can we act upon this vision in our communities?

Conference Goals:

- To explore how art and vision intersect to create meaningful pathways toward peace.
- To foster critical academic constructive inquiry and practical dialogue around the role of art in addressing the root causes of conflict, making what is hidden visible and promoting social healing.
- To build a community of activists, scholars, and artists committed to working together for transformative change.

Call for Submissions:

We invite abstracts of no more than 250 **words** addressing the following questions:

"Our world is boiling—how might your research or creative project suggest ways to change this reality or ripple out peace into spaces where we find ourselves isolated by narratives, feelings, or experiences?" "How do we act when we feel this way, what are the solutions, tactics, how do we inform and encourage each other?"

Please submit your abstracts to nenns@lcc.lt by **January 25th** for approval. For approved presenters, the **registration fee will be waived**.

Registration: Due 10 February 2025

Individual Fee: €50

LCC Student Fee: €15

Registration includes two meals, one break time, and all materials needed for participation. Lodging is the responsibility of participants.

Learning Day Agenda:

Conference will run from 10:30 to 20:30. Full agenda to be provided to registered participants.

A Call for Transformative Collaboration:

This conference is an opportunity to engage with like-minded individuals—artists, researchers, practitioners, students, and community members—to develop a deeper, more collective understanding of peace. It is a chance to explore the ways in which vision, creativity, and faith can empower agency that catalyzes meaningful social change.

We invite you to join us in a journey of discovery, creativity, and transformation as we reimagine peace together. Through participatory strategies, collective movement and dialogue, we will explore how art can shape vision, empower communities, and help us navigate the complex and challenging landscapes of our world.

For inquiries, please contact: nenns@lcc.lt or iruke@lcc.lt

Join us in this unique opportunity to connect, create, and collaborate for a more peaceful, inclusive world. As we move beyond our sacred bubbles into waves of peace weaving threads of science, art and spirituality through this collective learning journey may you find ways to be a ripple of peace weaving its way into this world in the places you are in.