



# 6th Annual Protection of Civilians Conference

Please join us:



**8 November 2022**



**Amare**

Spuiplein 150  
2511 DG  
The Hague  
The Netherlands

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For more information, visit:  
[www.protectionofcivilians.org/events](http://www.protectionofcivilians.org/events)

Please **RSVP** by sending an email by **1 November** to:  
[PoC@paxforpeace.nl](mailto:PoC@paxforpeace.nl)

Many concepts attempt to include the voice and agency of the people most affected by conflict in decision making and programming. Human security, bottom-up approaches, community-based security, civilian harm mitigation and people-centered approaches all have conceptual similarities and differences. Rather than theorizing over definitions, this event aims to convene global experts to discuss lessons learned from both research and practice about how to meaningfully engage with civilians living in conflict to improve protection and security.

The conference will be an informal exchange between a curated group of experts from the worlds of policy, academia, the security sector and civil society. Participants will exchange views on what people-centered approaches mean to different communities, what we as a field have learned from applications in practice and how security interventions can be made more relevant, accountable and sustainable.

## Session

## Description

9:00-9:30: <b>Arrival &amp; registration</b>	Visit the registration desk for your badge and more details about the day's program.
9:30-10:15: <b>Welcome and setting the scene</b>	<i>Dutch MFA (Lex Gerts), MoD (Lars Walrave), and DCAF (Victoria Walker), joined by civil society activists; Facilitator: Hans Rouw, PAX</i> An opening panel will kick off the conference with a discussion about their PoC efforts, ambitions and definitions of success. Civil society activists from various conflict contexts will provide their own perspectives on the meaning and significance of people-centered security.
10:15-11:15: <b>What does the evidence tell us about people-centered approaches to security?</b>	<i>SIPRI (Pauline Poupart), CIVIC (Dan Mahanty) and DCAF (Victoria Walker); Facilitator: Carrie Huisman, PAX</i> Panelists will pitch key research findings concerning people-centered security and provide recommendations about what kinds of approaches work and why.
11:15-11:45: <b>Coffee break</b>	Network with your fellow conference attendees.
11:45-13:00: <b>How can we create more programmatic space for engaging security actors in fragile settings?</b>	<i>Dutch MFA (Martijn Beerthuisen), the Iraqi Al-Amal Association (Ilham Makki), Geneva Call (Hisham Khadhraoui) and PAX (Wilbert van der Zeijden); Facilitator: Hans Rouw, PAX</i> Expert practitioners and policymakers will discuss how to effectively work with both the supply and demand sides of security, exploring how to foster constructive engagement, manage risks and adapt to dynamic circumstances and needs.
13:00-14:00: <b>Lunch break</b>	Enjoy a plant-based lunch buffet.
14:00-15:30: <b>People-centered approaches in military operations: the Civilian Harm Mitigation and Response Action Plan</b>	<i>USA DoD (Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy), Dutch MoD (Directorate of International Affairs), and PAX (Marc Garlasco); Facilitator: Erin Bijl, PAX</i> Experts involved recent developments in PoC policy in the USA and in the Netherlands will contribute recommendations on how to implement the new policies and discuss implications for civilians.
15:30-16:00: <b>Coffee break</b>	Network with your fellow conference attendees.
16:00-17:00: <b>Interactive session to refine recommendations for people-centered approaches to security</b>	<i>Facilitated by Hans Rouw and Carrie Huisman, PAX</i> This open session will ask all participants to contribute additional best practices, emerging opportunities or recommendations that are practical enough to reflect both institutional realities and bold enough to meaningfully respond to needs on the ground.
17:00-18:30: <b>Reception and networking</b>	Join all attendees for a catered networking reception to close the event. Note that additional relevant guests and colleagues are welcome.



## About PAX's PoC Program

*The protection of civilians living in conflict is at the heart of our work. To achieve this, PAX and its partners carry out research, facilitate inclusive dialogue, convene expert events, advise policymakers and provide specialised training and guidance to security actors in various contexts around the world.*

Learn more at:  
[www.protectionofcivilians.org](http://www.protectionofcivilians.org)

