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## Religion and Peacebuilding

State University of New York Press **Acknowledging that religion can motivate both violence and compassion, this book looks at how a variety of world religions can and do build peace. In the wake of September 11, 2001 religion is often seen as the motivating force behind terrorism and other acts of violence. Religion and Peacebuilding looks beyond headlines concerning violence perpetrated in the name of religion to examine how world religions have also inspired social welfare and peacemaking activism. Leading scholars from the Aboriginal, Hindu, Buddhist, Confucian, Jewish, Muslim, and Christian traditions provide detailed analyses of the spiritual resources for fostering peace within their respective religions. The contributors discuss the formidable obstacles to nonviolent conflict transformation found within sacred texts and living traditions. Case studies of Northern Ireland, Bosnia, Cambodia, and South Africa are also examined as practical applications of spiritual resources for peace. Harold Coward is with the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society at the University of Victoria and is the author and editor of many books, including most recently Yoga and Psychology: Language, Memory, and Mysticism, also published by SUNY Press. Gordon S. Smith is Director of the Centre for Global Studies at the University of Victoria and the author and editor of many books, including (with Daniel Wolfish) Who Is Afraid of the State?: Canada in a World of Multiple Centres of Power.**

# The Perfectibility of Human Nature in Eastern and Western Thought

State University of New York Press **Explores the issue of the perfectibility of nature in philosophy, psychology, and a variety of world religions.**

## Religion, Conflict, and Peacebuilding

# The Role of Religious Leaders in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Springer Nature **This book provides fresh insights into the role of religious leaders in conflict transformation and peacebuilding. Based on a large dataset of interviews with Christian and Muslim leaders in Bosnia and Herzegovina, it offers a contextually rich analysis of the main post-conflict challenges: forgiveness, reconciliation, and tragic memories. Designed as an inductive, qualitative research, it also develops an integrative theoretical model of religiously-inspired engagement in conflict transformation. The work introduces a number of new concepts which are relevant for both theory and practice of peacebuilding, such as Residue of Forgiveness, Degree Zero of Reconciliation, Ecumene of Compassion, and Phantomic Memories. The book, furthermore, proposes two correlated concepts - "theological dissonance" and "pastoral optimization" - as theoretical tools to describe the interplay between moral ideals and practical limitations. The text is a valuable resource for religious and social scholars alike, especially those interested in topics of peace, conflict, and justice. From the methodological standpoint, it is an original and audacious attempt at bringing together theological, philosophical, and political narratives on conflicts and peace through the innovative use of the Grounded Theory approach.**

## Women, Religion, and Peace- Building

# Gusii and Maasai Women of Faith in Kenya

Springer Nature **This book explores the peacebuilding ideas and experiences of Maasai and Gusii women of faith in Kenya. Women of faith across the world have long demonstrated their leadership in peacebuilding. They have achieved this despite their underrepresentation in formal peacebuilding systems and the persistent lack of consideration for their critical contributions, and in the face of insecurity and violence against their very bodies. Their efforts include daily practices of sharing resources, building social cohesion, promoting human relations, and interlinking psychological, social, political, and spiritual encounters. This book provides a gender-responsive peacebuilding framework that leverages the intersectionality of women's diverse identities and roles as they navigate both secular and religious spaces for peace. The book will appeal to researchers and teachers as well as practitioners and activists.**

# Fifty Years of Religious Studies in Canada

## A Personal Retrospective

Wilfrid Laurier Univ. Press **In Canadian universities in the early 1960s, no courses were offered on Hinduism, Buddhism, or Islam. Only the study of Christianity was available, usually in a theology program in a church college or seminary. Today almost every university in North America has a religious studies department that offers courses on Western and Eastern religions as well as religion in general. Harold Coward addresses this change in this memoir of his forty-five-year career in the development of religious studies as a new academic field in Canada. He also addresses the shift from theology classes in seminaries to non-sectarian religious studies faculties of arts and humanities; the birth and growth of departments across Canada from the 1960s to the present; the contribution of McMaster University to religious studies in Canada and Coward's Ph.D. experience there; the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society at the University of Victoria; and the future of religious studies as a truly interdisciplinary enterprise. Coward's retrospective, while not a history as such, documents information from his varied experience and wide network of colleagues that is essential for a future formal history of the discipline. His story is both personally engaging and richly informative about the development of the field.**

# Reframing the House

## Constructive Feminist Global Ecclesiology for the Western Evangelical Church

Wipf and Stock Publishers **Reframing the House continues the conversation of global theology as the future of the church. Jennifer Buck tells how women's voices from Africa, Asia, and Latin America serve as a critique of Evangelical theology of the church in the West. Three voices are highlights here from the Majority world: Mercy Oduyoye, a Ghanaian feminist theologian as representative of Africa; Kwok Pui-lan, a Chinese feminist theologian as representative of Asia; and Maria Pilar Aquino, a Mexican feminist theologian representative of the Americas. Working with these women along with Quaker, political, and feminist voices, this work presents a constructive global ecclesiology, exploring areas such as salvation, sin, peacemaking, and more.**

## Forgiveness, Reconciliation, and Restoration

## Multidisciplinary Studies from a Pentecostal Perspective

Wipf and Stock Publishers **Although history is replete with tales of revenge, Christian forgiveness provides an alternate response. In this volume, Pentecostal scholars from various disciplines offer their vision for forgiveness, reconciliation, and restoration. The essayists offer long-overdue Pentecostal perspectives through analysis of contemporary theological issues, personal testimony, and prophetic possibilities for restoration of individual relationships and communities. Though Pentecostals remain committed to Spirit-empowered witness as recorded in Luke-Acts, these scholars embrace a larger Lukan vision of Spirit-initiated inclusivity marked by reconciliation. The consistent refrain calls for forgiveness as an expression of God's love that does not demand justice but rather seeks to promote peace by bringing healing and reconciliation in relationships between people united by one Spirit.**

# Religion in the Anthropocene

BoD - Books on Demand **Religion in the Anthropocene** charts a new direction in humanities scholarship through serious engagement with the geopolitical concept of the Anthropocene. Drawing on religious studies, theology, social science, history, philosophy, and what can be broadly termed as environmental humanities, this collection represents a groundbreaking critical analysis of diverse narratives on the Anthropocene. The contributors to this volume recognize that the Anthropocene began as a geological concept, the age of the humans, but that its implications are much wider than this. Does the Anthropocene idea challenge the possibility of a sacred Nature, or is it a secularized theological anthropology more properly dealt with through traditional concepts from Roman Catholic social teaching on human ecology? Not all contributors to this volume agree about the answers to these and many more different questions. Readers will be challenged, provoked, and stimulated by this book.

# The Oxford Handbook of Religion, Conflict, and Peacebuilding

Oxford University Press **This volume provides a comprehensive and interdisciplinary account of the scholarship on religion, conflict, and peacebuilding.** Looking far beyond the traditional parameters of the field, the contributors engage deeply with the legacies of colonialism, missionary activism, secularism, orientalism, and liberalism as they relate to the discussion of religion, violence, and nonviolent transformation and resistance. Featuring numerous case studies from various contexts and traditions, the volume is organized thematically into five different parts. It begins with an up-to-date mapping of scholarship on religion and violence, and religion and peace. The second part explores the challenges related to developing secularist theories on peace and nationalism, broadening the discussion of violence to include an analysis of cultural and structural forms. In the third section, the chapters explore controversial topics such as religion and development, religious militancy, and the freedom of religion as a keystone of peacebuilding. The fourth part locates notions of peacebuilding in spiritual practice by focusing on constructive resources within various traditions, the transformative role of rituals, youth and interfaith activism in American university campuses, religion and solidarity activism, scriptural reasoning as a peacebuilding practice, and an extended reflection on the history and legacy of missionary peacebuilding. The volume concludes by looking to the future of peacebuilding scholarship and the possibilities for new growth and progress. Bringing together a diverse array of scholars, this innovative handbook grapples with the tension between theory and practice, cultural theory, and the legacy of the liberal

peace paradigm, offering provocative, elastic, and context-specific insights for strategic peacebuilding processes.

## Acceptable Genes?

## Religious Traditions and Genetically Modified Foods

SUNY Press **Perspectives on genetically modified foods from world religions and indigenous traditions.**

## The Perfectibility of Human Nature in Eastern and Western Thought

## The Central Story

SUNY Press **Explores the issue of the perfectibility of nature in philosophy, psychology, and a variety of world religions.**

## The Oxford Handbook of Peacebuilding, Statebuilding, and Peace Formation

Oxford University Press **"The Oxford Handbook of Peacebuilding, Statebuilding, and Peace Formation offers an authoritative and comprehensive overview of peacebuilding, statebuilding, and peace formation. With contributions from over thirty distinguished and leading scholars, the Handbook provides a timely, engaging, and critical overview of conceptual foundations, political implications, and tensions at the global, regional, and local levels. It examines the key policies, practices, examples, and discourses underlining various segments of peacebuilding, statebuilding, and peace formation both as discursive formulations and as policy practices. Organized around four major thematic sections, the Handbook offers a state-of-the-art synthesis of the most pressing contemporary peace and conflict issues and charts new pathways for responding to transnational insecurities"--**

# The Wiley Blackwell Companion to Religion and Peace

**John Wiley & Sons** Incisive contributions from leading and emerging scholars in the field of Peace Studies In the Wiley Blackwell Companion to Religion and Peace, a team of renowned scholars delivers an authoritative and interdisciplinary sourcebook that addresses the key concepts, history, theories, models, resources, and practices in the complex and ambivalent relationship between religion and peace. The editors have included contributions from a wide range of perspectives and locations that reflect diverse methods and approaches. The Companion provides a collection grounded in experience and context that draws on established, developing, and new research characterized by academic rigor. The differences between the approaches taken by several religious traditions are fully explored and numerous case studies highlight relevant theories, models, and resources. Accessible as either a standalone collection or as a partner to the Companion to Religion and Violence, this edited volume also offers: A thorough introduction to religion and its search for peace, including the relationships between religion and peace and theories and practices for studying the interplay between religion and peace Comprehensive explorations of religion and peace in local contexts, including discussions of women's empowerment and peacebuilding in an Islamic context Practical discussions of practices and embodiments of religion and peace, including treatments of museums for peace and self-religion in global peace movements In-depth examinations of lived Christian theologies and building peace, including discussions of Martin Luther King Jr. and spiritual activism in Scotland Perfect for students and scholars of peacemaking, peacekeeping, and peace building, the Wiley Blackwell Companion to Religion and Peace will also earn a place in the libraries of anyone professionally or personally interested in the field of Peace or Religious Studies, International Relations, History, Politics, or Theology.

# Routledge Handbook of Religion and Politics

**Routledge** From the United States to the Middle East, Asia and Africa, religion continues to be an important factor in political activity and organisation. The second edition of this successful handbook provides the definitive global survey of the interaction of religion and politics. Featuring contributions from an international team of experts, it examines the political aspects of all the world's major religions, including such crucial contemporary issues as religious fundamentalism, terrorism, the 'war on

terror', the 'clash of civilizations', the Arab Spring, and science and religion. Each chapter has been updated to reflect the latest developments and thinking in the field, and new chapters such as 'Postsecularism and international relations' and 'Securitization and Secularization: The two pillars of state regulation of European Islam' have been added to ensure the book is a comprehensive and up-to-date resource. Four main themes addressed include: World religions and politics Religion and governance Religion and international relations Religion, security and development References at the end of each chapter have been overhauled to guide the reader towards the most up-to-date information on various topics. This book is an indispensable source of information for students, academics and the wider public interested in the dynamic relationship between politics and religion.

# Religion and European Society

## A Primer

John Wiley & Sons **A contemporary examination of the role of religion in the European public sphere and beyond** Although the role of religion has arguably declined in the societies of Western and Northern Europe, religious participation in other parts of the continent and among growing immigrant communities remains an important aspect of daily life. Recent years have seen a resurgence of religion in the public sphere, prompting many researchers to view European secularism as an outlier in this global trend. **Religion and European Society: A Primer** presents recent academic literature that explores key developments and current debates in the field, covering topics such as changing patterns of belief, religion across the political spectrum, and development and humanitarian aid. Articles written by leading scholars draw from well-established findings to help readers contemplate the role of religion in public life, understand the assumptions and underpinnings of the secular worldview, and develop new ways of thinking about global issues relevant to contemporary global affairs. Each theme is addressed by several articles to provide readers with diverse, sometimes competing perspectives. This volume offers concepts and ideas that can be used in various policy, practitioner, and academic settings—clarifying overarching concepts and trends rather than analyzing specific policy issues that can quickly become outdated. Addresses issues of contemporary importance such as demographic changes in religious observance, increased immigration, the emergence of new religious movements, and changes in more established religions Explores the ethical and philosophical concepts as well as the practical, everyday consequences of European post-secularism Challenges widespread assumptions about the secular nature of the modern public sphere Offers analytical tools as well as practical policy recommendations on a range of issues including media,

regulation, gender, conflict and peacebuilding, immigration and humanitarianism. Designed to move research findings from academic journals to the realm of public discourse, *Religion and European Society: A Primer* is a valuable source of information for practitioners within and outside of Europe of religious studies, politics, and international affairs.

## Religious Violence and Conciliation in Indonesia

### Christians and Muslims in the Moluccas

Routledge Maluku in eastern Indonesia is the home to Muslims, Protestants, and Catholics who had for the most part been living peaceably since the sixteenth century. In 1999, brutal conflicts broke out between local Christians and Muslims, and escalated into large-scale communal violence once the Laskar Jihad, a Java-based armed jihadist Islamic paramilitary group, sent several thousand fighters to Maluku. As a result of this escalated violence, the previously stable Maluku became the site of devastating interreligious wars. This book focuses on the interreligious violence and conciliation in this region. It examines factors underlying the interreligious violence as well as those shaping post-conflict peace and citizenship in Maluku. The author shows that religion—both Islam and Christianity—was indeed central and played an ambiguous role in the conflict settings of Maluku, whether in preserving and aggravating the Christian-Muslim conflict or supporting or improving peace and reconciliation. Based on extensive ethnographic fieldwork and interviews as well as historical and comparative research on religious identities, this book is of interest to Indonesia specialists, as well as academics with an interest in anthropology, religious conflict, peace and conflict studies.

### The Ashgate Research Companion to Religion and Conflict Resolution

Routledge A comprehensive overview of the latest research in religion and conflict resolution, this collection of twenty three essays brings together leading scholars in the field examining the contribution religious actors have made and are making towards peace and resolving. The Ashgate Research Companion to Religion and Conflict Resolution is primarily aimed at readerships with special interest in conflict resolution, international security, and religion and international relations, and will also serve as a

valuable resource for policy makers and conflict resolution practitioners. The collection comprises five thematic sections, each with chapters on vital and mainly contemporary topics in the field of religion and conflict resolution. The principal themes include: †

## The Role of Religion in Peacebuilding

## Crossing the Boundaries of Prejudice and Distrust

Jessica Kingsley Publishers The question 'who is my neighbour?' challenges the way we see ourselves as well as the way we see others. Especially in situations where we feel conflicted between our own self-identity and common identity within a wider society. Historically, religion has contributed to this inner conflict by creating 'us versus them' mentalities. Challenging this traditional view, this volume examines how religions and religious communities can use their resources, methodology and praxis to encourage peace-making. The book is divided into two parts - the first includes sources, theories and methodologies of crossing boundaries of prejudice and distrust from the perspectives of theology and religious studies. The second includes case studies of theory and practice to challenge prejudice and distrust in a conflict or post-conflict situation. The chapters are written by scholars, religious leaders and faith-motivated peace practitioners from various global contexts to create a diverse academic study of religious peace-building.

## Gandhi in a Canadian Context

## Relationships between Mahatma Gandhi and Canada

Wilfrid Laurier Univ. Press **Gandhi in a Canadian Context** examines a range of intriguing and under-studied connections between India's greatest nationalist leader, Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948), and facets of life in Canada, including Gandhi's interest in and contact with Canada and Canadians early in the twentieth century, and the implications of Gandhi's thinking on a range of issues in Canadian society today. This collection of essays by Canadian scholars explores topics such as Gandhi's awareness of Canada; the academic study of Gandhi in Canadian higher education; and

dimensions of Gandhi's thought that demand greater attention and have enduring relevance for individuals and communities in Canada. These range from a peace-oriented Islam and participation in direct action campaigns to a more constructive politics and environmental stewardship. This book breaks new ground in the depth of its study of a figure significant for both Canada and the world at large. The themes in this book will be of interest to scholars in Gandhi studies, education, Canadian history, and sociology, as well as to the general reader who seeks to reflect on what traditions of non-violence and conflict resolution championed by Gandhi might contribute to social progress in Canada.

## Days of Awe

# Reimagining Jewishness in Solidarity with Palestinians

For many Jewish people in the mid-twentieth century, Zionism was an unquestionable tenet of what it meant to be Jewish. Seventy years later, a growing number of American Jews are instead expressing solidarity with Palestinians, questioning old allegiances to Israel. How did that transformation come about? What does it mean for the future of Judaism? In *Days of Awe*, Atalia Omer examines this shift through interviews with a new generation of Jewish activists, rigorous data analysis, and fieldwork within a progressive synagogue community. She highlights people politically inspired by social justice campaigns including the Black Lives Matter movement and protests against anti-immigration policies. These activists, she shows, discover that their ethical outrage at US policies extends to Israel's treatment of Palestinians. For these American Jews, the Jewish history of dispossession and diaspora compels a search for solidarity with liberation movements. This shift produces innovations within Jewish tradition, including multi-racial and intersectional conceptions of Jewishness and movements to reclaim prophetic Judaism. Charting the rise of such religious innovation, Omer points toward the possible futures of post-Zionist Judaism.

## Religious Leaders and Conflict Transformation

# Northern Ireland and Beyond

Cambridge University Press **Religious dimension of contemporary conflicts and the rise of faith-based movements worldwide require policymakers to identify the channels through which religious leaders can play a constructive role. While religious fundamentalisms are in the news every day, we do not hear about the potential and actual role of religious actors in creating a peaceful and just society. Countering this trend, Sandal draws attention to how religious actors helped prepare the ground for stabilizing political initiatives, ranging from abolition of apartheid (South Africa), to the signing of the Lome Peace Agreement (Sierra Leone). Taking Northern Ireland as a basis and using declarations and speeches of more than forty years, this book builds a new perspective that recognizes the religious actors' agency, showing how religious actors can have an impact on public opinion and policy making in today's world.**

## Religion as a Conversation Starter

### Interreligious Dialogue for Peacebuilding in the Balkans

A&C Black **Religion as a Conversation Starter is the first comprehensive analysis of the present state of interreligious dialogue for peacebuilding in Southeast Europe. It is based on empirically grounded and policy-oriented research, carried out throughout the Balkans. The study maps recent interreligious relations in this part of the world, throwing light on both the achievements and challenges of interreligious dialogue for peacebuilding in particular, and offering a set of up-to-date policy recommendations, whilst contributing to a greater understanding of the local particularities and how they relate to broader trends transnationally. Interreligious dialogue has been a central tool in the continuous international efforts to promote peaceful living together in multicultural and multireligious societies. This fascinating monograph explores the place of interreligious dialogue as a primary method in conflict resolution and peacebuilding, and will be of interest to scholars of religious and peace studies, as well as those who advocate and carry out organized interventions in religion-related spheres.**

## Peace, Politics, and Religion

MDPI **Relationships between peace, politics and religion are often controversial, and sometimes problematic. Religion is a core source of identity for billions of people around the world and it is hardly surprising**

that sometimes it becomes involved in conflicts. At the same time, we can see religion involved not only in conflict. It is also central to conflict resolution, peace-making and peacebuilding. Religious involvement is often necessary to try to end hatred and differences, frequently central to political conflicts especially, but not only, in the Global South. Evidence shows that religious leaders and faith-based organisations can play constructive roles in helping to end violence, and in some cases, build peace via early warnings of conflict, good offices once conflict has erupted, as well as advocacy, mediation and reconciliation. The chapters of this book highlight that religion can encourage both conflict and peace, through the activities of people individually and collectively imbued with religious ideas and ideals.

## Dialogue, Conflict Resolution, and Change

### Arab-Jewish Encounters in Israel

State University of New York Press **Explores Arab-Jewish encounters and relations in Israel from both conflict resolution and educational perspectives.**

## Research Handbook on Interdisciplinary Approaches to Law and Religion

Edward Elgar Publishing **Following 9/11, increased attention has been given to the place of religion in the public sphere. Across the world, Law and Religion has developed as a sub-discipline and scholars have grappled with the meaning and effect of legal texts upon religion. The questions they ask, however, cannot be answered by reference to Law alone therefore their work has increasingly drawn upon work from other disciplines. This Research Handbook assists by providing introductory but provocative essays from experts on a range of concepts, perspectives and theories from other disciplines, which can be used to further Law and Religion scholarship.**

## Communicating Differences

# Culture, Media, Peace and Conflict Negotiation

Springer This volume captures the essence of how we communicate differences in relationships, between and across cultures, in organizations, through education and in moments of local and global conflict and crisis that demonstrates the importance and viability of approaching peace and conflict communication from various fields within communication studies.

## Youth Peacebuilding

### Music, Gender, and Change

State University of New York Press Highlighting the important role youth can play in the processes of peacbuilding, this text examines music as a tool for engaging youth in such activities. The author presents detailed empirical work on two youth peacebuilding programmes in Australia & Northern Ireland & looks at how gender norms might influence young people's participation in music-based peacebuilding activities.

## Peace on Earth

### The Role of Religion in Peace and Conflict Studies

Lexington Books **Peace on Earth: The Role of Religion in Peace and Conflict Studies** provides a critical analysis of faith and religious institutions in peacebuilding practice and pedagogy. The work captures the synergistic relationships among faith traditions and how multiple approaches to conflict transformation and peacebuilding result in a creative process that has the potential to achieve a more detailed view of peace on earth, containing breadth as well as depth. Library and bookstore shelves are filled with critiques of the negative impacts of religion in conflict scenarios. **Peace on Earth: The Role of Religion in Peace and Conflict Studies** offers an alternate view that suggests religious organizations play a more complex role in conflict than a simply negative one. Faith-based organizations, and their workers, are often found on the frontlines of conflict throughout the world, conducting conflict management and resolution activities as well as advancing peacebuilding initiatives.

# American Book Publishing Record Ex-Combatants, Religion, and Peace in Northern Ireland

## The Role of Religion in Transitional Justice

Springer **Studies of Northern Ireland's ex-combatants ignore religion, while advocates of religious interventions in transitional justice exaggerate its influence. Using interview data with ex-combatants, this book explores religious influences upon violence and peace, and develops a model for evaluating the role of religion in transitional justice.**

## Religion und Transitional Justice

### Religiöse

### Nichtregierungsorganisationen zwischen Versöhnung und Bestrafung

Springer-Verlag **Clara Braungart analysiert die Rolle religiöser Nichtregierungsorganisationen (RNGOs) in der Vergangenheitsaufarbeitung. Sie untersucht RNGOs, die am IStGH und gleichzeitig auch in Kenia und Uganda tätig sind, und beschreibt ihre Position im Feld der Vergangenheitsaufarbeitung. Gleichzeitig zeigt sie, wie diese Positionen zustande kommen: Insbesondere der jeweilige Kontext und die religiöse Tradition beeinflussen die Position einer Organisation und religiöse Werte wie Versöhnung werden je nach Kontext unterschiedlich interpretiert.**

## Multi-Level Reconciliation and

# Peacebuilding Stakeholder Perspectives

**Routledge** This edited volume examines the group dynamics of social reconciliation in conflict-affected societies by adopting ideas developed in social psychology and the everyday peace discourse in peace and conflict studies. The book revisits the intra- and inter-group dynamics of social reconciliation in conflict-affected societies, which have been largely marginalised in mainstream peacebuilding debates. By applying social psychological perspectives and the discourse of everyday peace, the chapters explore the everyday experience of community actors engaged in social and political reconciliation. The first part of the volume introduces conceptual and theoretical studies that focus on the pros and cons of state-level reconciliation and their outcomes, while presenting theoretical insights into dialogical processes upon which reconciliation studies can develop further. The second part presents a series of empirical case studies from around the world, which examine the process of social reconciliation at community levels through the lens of social psychology and discourse analysis. This book will be of much interest to students of peacebuilding, conflict resolution, social psychology, discourse analysis and international relations in general.

# Interfaith Dialogue and Peacebuilding

□□□□ As the Christian, Muslim, and Jewish contributors to this volume have discovered firsthand, religion is better at fostering peace than at fueling war. Rarely, conclude the authors, is religion the principal cause of international conflict, even though some adversaries may argue differently. But religion can often be invaluable in promoting understanding and reconciliation-and the need to exploit that potential has never been greater. Drawing on their extensive experience in organizing interaction and cooperation across religious boundaries in the Middle East, Africa, Southeast Asia, Northern Ireland, and the Balkans, the contributors explore the formidable potential of interfaith dialogue. The first part of the volume analyzes the concept and its varied application; the second focuses on its practice in specific zones of conflict; and the third assesses the experiences and approaches of particular organizations. When organized creatively, interfaith dialogue can nurture deep engagement at all levels of the religious hierarchy, including the community level. It draws strength from the peacemaking traditions shared by many faiths and from the power of religious ritual and symbolism. Yet, as the authors also make

plain, it also has its limitations and carries great risks.

## Narratives of War

### Remembering and Chronicling Battle in Twentieth-Century Europe

Routledge **Narratives of War** considers the way war and battle are remembered and narrated across space and time in Europe in the twentieth century. The book reflects on how narratives are generated and deployed, and on their function as coping mechanisms, means of survival, commemorative gestures, historical records and evidence. The contributions address such issues as the tension and discrepancy between memory and the official chronicling of war, the relationship between various individuals' versions of war narratives and the ways in which events are brought together to serve varied functions for the narrators and their audiences. Drawing upon the two World Wars, the Spanish Civil War and the ex-Yugoslav wars, and considering narrative genres that include film, schoolbooks, novels, oral history, archives, official documents, personal testimony and memoirs, readers are introduced to a range of narrative forms and examples that highlight the complexity of narrative in relation to war. Approached from a multidisciplinary perspective, and taken together, analysis of these narratives contributes to our understanding of the causes, experience, dynamics and consequences of war, making it the ideal book for those interested in twentieth-century war history and the history of memory and narrative.

## Islam and Peacebuilding

### Gulen Movement Initiatives

Blue Dome Press **The exploration of the contributions is made with regards to the title in hand by the thought and practice of the global movement associated with the Turkish Muslim scholar Fethullah Gulen. The importance and distinctiveness of teaching of Gulen and the practice of the movement is that it is rooted in a confident Turkish Islamic heritage while being fully engaged with modernity. It offers the possibility of a contextualised renewal of Islam for Muslims in the modern world while being fully rooted in the teachings of the Qu'ran and the Sunnah of the Prophet. It advocates the freedom of religion while making an Islamic contribution to the wider society based on a commitment to service of others.**

# Routledge Handbook of Peacebuilding

**Routledge** This new Routledge Handbook offers a comprehensive, state-of-the-art overview of the meanings and uses of the term 'peacebuilding', and presents cutting-edge debates on the practices conducted in the name of peacebuilding. The term 'peacebuilding' has had remarkable staying power. Other terms, such as 'conflict resolution' have waned in popularity, while the acceptance and use of the term 'peacebuilding' has grown to the extent that it is the hegemonic and over-arching term for many forms of mediation, reconciliation and strategies to induce peace. Despite this, however, it is rarely defined and often used to mean different things to different audiences. Routledge Handbook of Peacebuilding aims to be a one-stop comprehensive resource on the literature and practices of contemporary peacebuilding. The book is organised into six key sections: Section 1: Reading peacebuilding Section 2: Approaches and cross-cutting themes Section 3: Disciplinary approaches to peacebuilding Section 4: Violence and security Section 5: Everyday living and peacebuilding Section 6: The infrastructure of peacebuilding This new Handbook will be essential reading for students of peacebuilding, mediation and post-conflict reconstruction, and of great interest to students of statebuilding, intervention, civil wars, conflict resolution, war and conflict studies and IR in general.

## Ethics and Religion in International Relations - Usage and Investment

**Mahmoud Refaat** In the last decade and a half, the study of academics on religious and inter-cultural relations grew from a few scattered books into a flourishing corpus of scholarship. Its Working Group on International Relations and Religion was supported by an award of the Mellon Foundation to the University of Notre Dame and the University of Notre Dame, met for four times over the course of two and a half years to evaluate this pattern in order to assess how far research on international relations and religion is now and what direction it is likely to take. The purpose of the group, however, was not to study the research, but to also address general questions such as: What is religion, in the first place? How has religion affected the international system of states and the international relations theories? What is the way in which religion is prominently portrayed in modern international relations? The report provides insights to all those interested in studying international relations and religions regardless of whether they are researchers, students or just

general readers. The primary focus of the report is in the field of political science, with ten of the thirteen contributors coming from this discipline, however the report also demonstrates a broad disciplinary scope. One of the contributors is a theologian William T. Cavanaugh, who has been one of the most inventive and controversial researchers of religion and its relation to violence, politics and nationalism. Atalia Omer is among the top young researchers in the field of religious studies, is both engaged in the research of political scientists within this area and identifies avenues of research that are not limited to other disciplines.

## Standing on an Isthmus

# Islamic Narratives on War and Peace in Palestinian Territories

Lexington Books **Standing on an Isthmus** explores the role of religion, particularly Islam, in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as a factor both motivating the conflict and as a potential resource for its resolution. It examines how religious beliefs, commitments, and traditions shape and influence concrete social action such as promoting either violent or peaceful behavior and focuses on the legitimization process of religious narratives. More specifically it looks at different Islamic interpretations of war and peace within the Islamic tradition and investigates why an extremist interpretation is becoming more accepted among Palestinians as a response to the conflict. **Standing on an Isthmus** has become particularly important in the post-September 11 era, when the relationship between violence and religion in general, and Islam in particular, became a central concern for scholars and politicians. Other horrific acts, such as the 2002 Bali bombings, and 2004 Beslan School Siege have also significantly contributed to the image of Islam as a violent religion. **Standing on an Isthmus** examines the internal dialogue that rages among Islamic scholars for the "correct" interpretation of Islam, sheds light on why Islamic extremism has come to be accepted as a strategic tool among some Islamic groups, and investigates the role of social institutions and civil society networks, utilized by different groups, in the process of legitimizing their interpretation. Consequently, it addresses a series of new topics for conflict resolution studies, including religious and pragmatic motivations of behavior; struggle between moral values, multi-faith dialogue, and pluralism as conflict resolution strategies; and the socio-political impact of leadership, legitimization, and the role of interpretation of sacred texts during conflicts, among others. Moreover it seeks to answer the questions: how can we utilize religion, in this case Islam, as a resource for peacemaking, and what is the best strategy to empower those groups and indi

# Business, Ethics and Peace

Emerald Group Publishing **This volume gathers a selection of papers presented at the International SPES Conference Business for Peace, Strategies for Hope held in Ypres in April 2014. The papers illustrate the impact of religion in peace management and present solutions and practices for corporate peace-building.**

# Religions and Migrations in the Black Sea Region

Springer **This book focuses on the interconnections of religion and migration in the Black Sea region through case studies that explore shifting identities, community, and national boundaries, as well as social practices and networks. During the past few decades the Black Sea has been transformed from a largely closed region, due to the Cold War, to a bridge for human, economic, and cultural capital flows. As the region opened up, understandings and practices of religion were re-signified due to new and diverse mobilities and resettlements. This volume addresses and responds to the current scarcity of academic research on the repercussion of political reform, migration, and modernization in the areas surrounding the Black Sea. Contributors uncover and examine the pivotal role of religion in current cultural contestations taking place in this strategic region. Engaging with a wide range of case studies, the book offers a fresh, comparative examination of migration as it relates to different countries and religious groups in the region.**