

On the occasion of Geneva Peace Week Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung and the Geneva Centre for Security Policy cordially invite you to a panel discussion on

“Mining Communities in post-conflict settings: New Challenges and Opportunities for Peacebuilding”

Tuesday 17 November 13:30-15:00

Palais des Nations, UN Library, Building B, Floor 1

For a number of conflict regions, particularly in Africa, the current concepts designed to prevent or halt natural resource exploitation as funding sources for war and insurgencies appear to be outdated. In the case of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), exploitation of natural resources for funding of armed conflict is succeeded by other forms of illegal exploitation of these assets. Local communities benefit only very marginally from any peace dividends. Instead, criminal organizations and networks of criminal elites formed from the remnants of former militia leaders, their combatants, corrupt officers of military, national security and law enforcement agents, extort an ever-growing share of the meagre income of artisanal miners and forest workers.

Against this backdrop, sanctions regimes to prevent natural resources from fuelling armed conflict, as devised by the United Nations, as well as due diligence schemes such advised by the OECD or made mandatory for US companies by the Dodd-Frank Act, appear to be behind the curve of the actual developments. It is therefore timely to update conceptions and unintended consequences on the ground.

Speakers:

Dr Sandra Krähenmann, Research Fellow, Geneva Academy, *“The role of international law in post-conflict scenarios”*

Raoul Kitungano, Director of the NGOs and Networks: Justice for All, DRC: *“Artisanal Mining Communities and Illegal Cross-Border Trade of Natural Resources in Times of Peace and War”*.

Anuarite Ketu Chikwanine, Project Manager Dynamique Femme et Mines, DRC: *“The Gender Challenge for Mining Communities in Transition from Conflict to Post-Conflict”*

Respondent:

Dr Robert Glasser, Executive-in-Residence, Geneva Centre for Security Policy

Moderator:

Dr Volker Lehmann, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung New York