Research Square

Preprints are preliminary reports that have not undergone peer review.
They should not be considered conclusive, used to inform clinical practice,
or referenced by the media as validated information.

From Agreement Design to Durable Peace: A Bibliometric Mapping and Systematic Review of Research on Peace Agreement Implementation 2000–2025

Muhamad Rizal Dhiyas Resindra

muhammad.rizal.isip26@mail.umy.ac.id

Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta

Yenis Contesa

Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta

Ali Muhammad

Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta

Ahmad Sahide

Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta

Research Article

Keywords: peace agreements, implementation, durable peace, credible commitment, inclusion, bibliometric analysis, systematic literature review

Posted Date: November 11th, 2026

DOI: https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-11449340/v1

License: This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License.
Read Full License

Additional Declarations: No competing interests reported.

From Agreement Design to Durable Peace: A Bibliometric Mapping and Systematic Review of Research on Peace Agreement Implementation 2000–2025

[1]Muhamad Rizal Dhiyas Resindra, [2]Yenis Contesa, [3]Ali Muhammad, [4]Ahmad Sahide
[1,2,3,4]*Doctoral Program in International Relations, Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, Yogyakarta, Indonesia*

Corresponding author: Muhamad Rizal Dhiyas Resindra
(muhammad.rizal.isip26@mail.umy.ac.id)

Abstract

Why do some peace agreements endure while others remain partially implemented or are followed by renewed violence? This study combines bibliometric mapping of 493 Scopus-indexed journal articles (2000–2025) with a systematic review of 104 full texts from the same corpus. The bibliometric analysis identifies an intellectual core around credible commitment, power sharing, spoilers and conflict recurrence, alongside recent attention to implementation, transitional justice, gender and Colombia. Publication output is concentrated in the United States and United Kingdom, while Colombia is both a major affiliation base and the most frequent case in the review corpus. The full-text synthesis indicates that outcomes cannot be inferred from agreement provisions alone: they depend on interactions among commitment institutions, meaningful and protected inclusion, security and spoiler management, material and territorial delivery, and justice and rights. Apparent contradictions across studies often reflect differences in institutional arena, level of analysis, outcome measure and time horizon. The article develops a Conditional Alignment Framework and four propositions for comparative testing.

Keywords: peace agreements; implementation; durable peace; credible commitment; inclusion; bibliometric analysis; systematic literature review

1. Introduction

Negotiated agreements move conflicts from armed confrontation into politics, but outcomes vary: some sustain non-violent competition, while others remain in force despite incomplete implementation (Joshi & Quinn, 2015; Kreutz, 2010). This variation matters to International Relations and peace-process practice.

Three traditions address different parts of the problem. Rationalist work explains commitment, guarantees and power sharing (Fortna, 2003; Joshi & Quinn, 2015); dataset research measures provisions and implementation (Bell & Badanjak, 2019; Joshi et al., 2025); critical and local-turn work examines hierarchy and political economies of violence (Bachmann, 2023; Olarte-Olarte, 2019; Vélez-Torres et al., 2022). These perspectives help explain why power sharing may stabilise yet entrench divisions, and why inclusion can confer legitimacy while exposing participants to risk.

A gap remains between mapping a field and explaining its mechanisms. Bibliometric patterns identify influential sources and concepts, but keyword and citation networks do not

establish causality. Systematic reviews contextualise findings, yet the relationship between included studies and the wider literature can remain unclear. This sequential design uses one Scopus corpus for both tasks and compares included studies with records outside the review. The proposed framework is an interpretive synthesis for testing, not a causal model validated by bibliometric analysis.

The study asks three questions. RQ1: How has research on peace agreement implementation and durability developed from 2000 to 2025 in output, sources, authors, countries, themes and intellectual foundations? RQ2: Which mechanisms linking agreement design and implementation to peace outcomes are supported, qualified or contradicted by full-text evidence? RQ3: What integrative framework and comparative agenda follow from the combined evidence?

The article makes four contributions: mapping the field over complete publication years; documenting the route from 493 records to 104 included studies; synthesising convergent and contradictory evidence across six categories; and developing a Conditional Alignment Framework with four propositions. Its proposed novelty lies in specifying conditions under which established mechanisms reinforce or undermine one another. Bibliometrics maps the field; mechanism claims arise from full-text synthesis.

2. Analytical background: peace agreements as commitment devices and political institutions

Rationalist accounts treat civil-war settlement as a credible-commitment problem: after rebels disarm, governments may renege, and intentions are difficult to verify. Guarantees, peacekeeping, demilitarised zones, joint commissions and power-sharing can reduce uncertainty or raise defection costs (Fortna, 2003; Joshi & Quinn, 2015). Agreement design distributes political, military, territorial and economic power, but provisions on paper are not equivalent to delivery. Excluded actors may spoil settlements when they expect losses.

Institutional and critical approaches broaden the analysis beyond bargaining. Agreements create political orders whose legitimacy depends on whose grievances are recognised, who participates and whether institutions accommodate later contestation (Nilsson, 2012). Local-turn scholarship asks how externally promoted peacebuilding interacts with local knowledge, entrenched hierarchies and political economies of violence. Implementation is therefore a contested political process, not a neutral administrative phase.

Agreement provisions and implementation trajectories can be compared through resources such as the Peace Accords Matrix and PA-X (Bell & Badanjak, 2019; Joshi et al., 2025). Yet national indicators can miss subnational violence, unequal rights protection and lived experience. The review therefore asks when commitment, inclusion, security, material delivery and justice reinforce one another, and when capacity, distribution or protection condition their effects.

These traditions are complementary but use different outcomes and explanatory levels. The review therefore asks when commitment, inclusion, security, material delivery and justice reinforce one another, and when the same provisions produce divergent results because of institutional arena, capacity, distribution or protection.

3. Research design

3.1. Sequential bibliometric and systematic review design

The study uses a sequential two-stage design (Figure 1): performance analysis and science mapping describe the Scopus corpus, which then provides the sampling frame for full-text retrieval, record verification and thematic screening. The staged flow records retrieval, verification, eligibility and inclusion decisions, with all counts reconciled against the screening log in Supplementary Workbook S1. Because full-text availability is incomplete, the 104-study review is compared with the 389 records outside it rather than assumed to represent all 493 records.

3.2. Data source and search strategy

Scopus was searched on 12 October 2026 across titles, abstracts and keywords using the exact query recorded in Supplementary Workbook S1: TITLE-ABS-KEY(("peace agreement" OR "peace accord" OR "peace settlement" OR "negotiated settlement") AND (implement OR compliance OR duration OR "peace duration" OR "conflict recurrence" OR "war recurrence" OR "relapse into conflict" OR "renewed conflict" OR "agreement failure" OR "agreement breakdown" OR "peace consolidation" OR spoiler OR "security guarantee")). The first block identifies negotiated settlements; the second captures implementation, compliance, durability, recurrence and breakdown.

The 2000–2026 search returned 1,125 records. Document type, language, source type, publication stage and Social Sciences limits removed 602, leaving 523. Thirty records dated 2026 were excluded because the year was incomplete, producing 493 articles from 269 sources for 2000–2025. All 493 retained records matched the Scopus export on EID, year and DOI. Citation counts were captured on 12 October 2026, so recent cohorts have shorter observation windows.

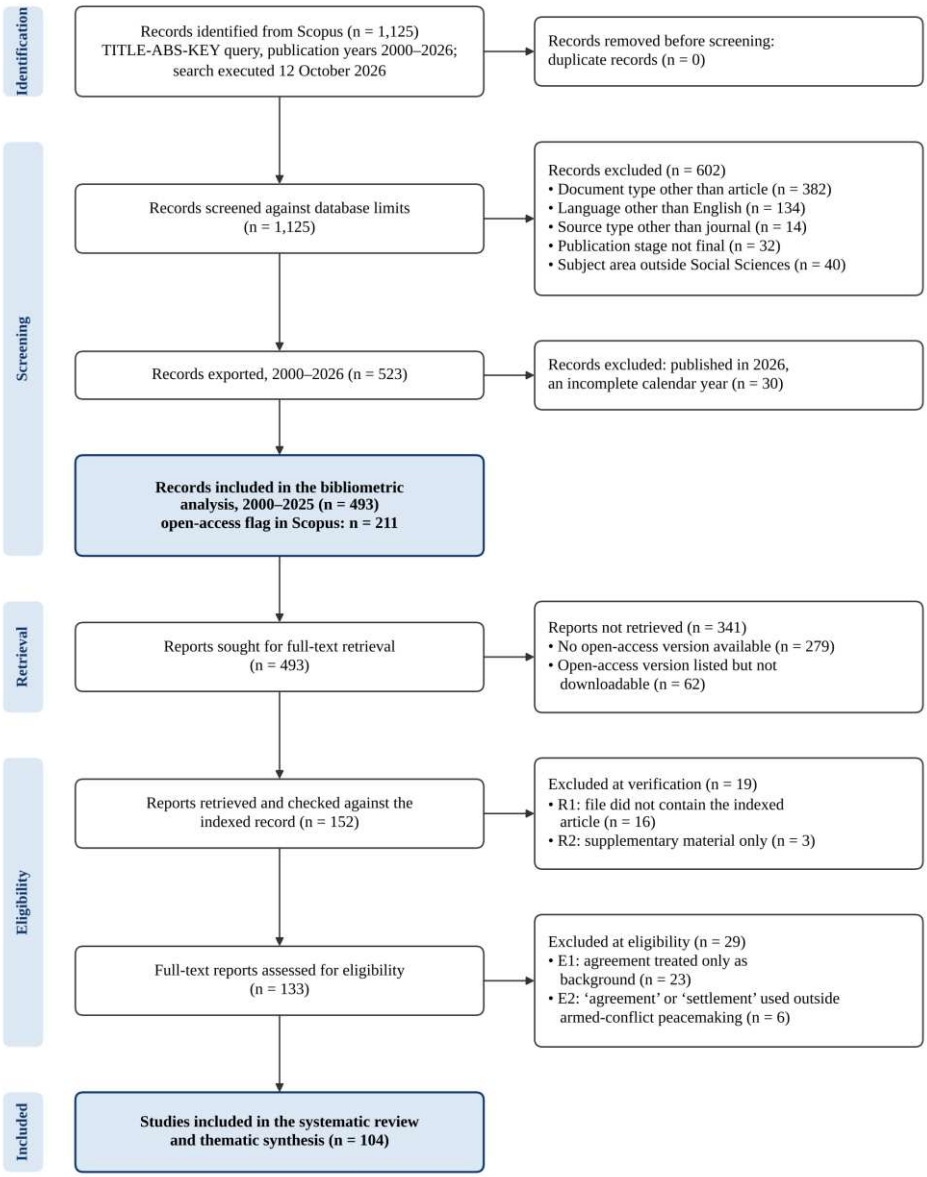


Figure 1. Staged flow diagram of the sequential design. The 493-article bibliometric corpus (2000–2025) is the sampling frame for full-text retrieval, verification and thematic eligibility screening.

3.3. Bibliometric analysis

Performance analysis covered output, sources, authors, countries and citations; science mapping covered keyword co-occurrence, thematic evolution, trend topics and co-citation. Analyses used Python libraries for tabular analysis, network analysis and scientific computing. Source dispersion and author productivity were examined through Bradford-style source zones and Lotka-style productivity distributions; software and parameter settings are documented in Supplementary Workbook S1.

Authors were disambiguated by Scopus Author ID. Cited references were deduplicated using first-author surname, year and opening title words. Author keywords were harmonised for spelling, singular/plural variants and selected equivalents (e.g., peace accord/peace agreement; disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration/DDR). The workbook documents

the broader merger of women and gender as an analytical choice, not a claim that the concepts are identical. Search terms that co-occur by construction were excluded from networks but retained in frequency tables; full lists are in S1.

Keyword and co-citation networks used association-strength normalisation and Louvain clustering; the highest-modularity partition across 25 seeded runs was retained. The co-occurrence map includes the 50 most frequent harmonised author keywords; thematic mapping includes terms occurring at least three times, with median centrality/density thresholds. Evolution periods are 2000–2015, 2016–2020 and 2021–2025 (inclusion index ≥0.10); trend topics require five occurrences and co-citation links three articles. Country output counts affiliation countries. Corresponding-author country is available for 337 records (68.4%). Results are parameter-sensitive.

3.4. Open-access retrieval, verification and eligibility

Full texts were sought for all 493 records. Of 211 records flagged as open access in Scopus, 149 were retrieved; three other files were retrieved without an open-access flag. The remaining 341 were unavailable: no open-access version was located for 279, while 62 listed versions could not be downloaded. Retrieval therefore depended on availability and access, creating selection that thematic screening cannot remove.

All 152 retrieved files were checked against DOI, title, authors and abstract. Sixteen files did not contain the indexed article, and three contained supplementary material only; these 19 files were excluded before thematic screening. The remaining 133 verified full texts were assessed against the criteria in Table 1. Borderline cases were reread, and the decision and reason for each retrieved report are recorded in Supplementary Workbook S1.

Table 1

Eligibility criteria for the full-text systematic review

Code	Criterion
I1	Context: an armed conflict (intrastate, territorial or interstate) in which a peace agreement, accord or negotiated settlement was negotiated, signed or implemented.
I2	Focus: the study analyses the negotiation, design, implementation, compliance, outcomes or durability of such an agreement, or a mechanism explicitly tied to its provisions (for example DDR, power sharing, commissions, transitional justice, rural reform or participation).
I3	Evidence: a peer-reviewed journal article with empirical, legal-doctrinal or conceptual analysis whose full text was retrieved and verified against the bibliographic record.
R1	Excluded at verification: the retrieved file does not contain the indexed article (n = 16).
R2	Excluded at verification: only supplementary material was retrieved (n = 3).
E1	Excluded at eligibility: the agreement is mentioned only as background to an unrelated analytical focus (n = 23).
E2	Excluded at eligibility: “agreement” or “settlement” refers to a non-armed-conflict context, such as criminal procedure, corporate settlements or maritime delimitation (n = 6).

Note. DDR = disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration. Inclusion requires I1, I2 and I3. Decisions for all 152 retrieved reports are listed in Supplementary Workbook S1, sheet S11. Sheet S13 provides exact abstract sentences as record-traceability aids; the thematic synthesis is based on reading the verified full texts, not on abstract excerpts alone.

The 133 verified full texts yielded 29 thematic exclusions: 23 treated a peace agreement only as background to an unrelated focus, and six used agreement or settlement in a non-armed-conflict context. The final review therefore includes 104 studies.

3.5. Coding and synthesis

A deductive–inductive coding frame was refined iteratively while reading the 104 included studies. Each study received one primary and up to two secondary themes across six categories: credible commitment/institutional design; inclusion/participation/legitimacy; security/spoilers/post-agreement violence; material/territorial implementation; justice/rights/accountability; and mediation/third-party support. Case, region and research design were also recorded. S12 contains study-level coding. S13 provides one exact abstract sentence per study, matched to the verified article with a page locator for traceability; these are not body-text quotations or substitutes for full-text analysis. Because the corpus spans empirical, legal-doctrinal and conceptual designs, no single risk-of-bias instrument or standardised quality score is claimed. Findings are interpreted in light of each study's design and evidentiary limits. Section 6 treats external mediation as an enabling layer, not a sixth core mechanism.

3.6. Representativeness of the review corpus

The 104 included studies were compared with the 389 records outside the review on year, citations, publication period, Colombia mention in title/abstract/keywords, Bradford-Core membership and international co-authorship. Two-sided Mann–Whitney U tests compared year and citation distributions; Pearson chi-square tested three publication periods; continuity-corrected chi-square tests covered binary indicators. These are descriptive selection diagnostics, not causal estimates; p-values were not adjusted for multiple comparisons. Definitions and counts are in S1 sheets S14–S16.

4. Bibliometric results

4.1. Performance overview and growth

The 493 articles were published in 269 sources by 748 distinct authors and cite 19,763 distinct references (26,018 reference entries); by the retrieval date, they had received 8,668 Scopus citations (mean 17.6; median 7). There are 269 single-authored articles (54.6%), 1.77 authors per article on average and 19.5% internationally co-authored articles. Single authorship declined from 63% in 2000–2010 to 42% in 2021–2025, while international co-authorship rose from 11% to 29%. The main descriptive characteristics of the bibliometric corpus are summarised in Table 2.

Table 2
Main information about the bibliometric corpus

Description	Result
Timespan	2000–2025
Sources (journals)	269
Documents (articles)	493
Annual growth rate, 2000–2025	8.2%

Description	Result
Average document age (years)	8.8
Average citations per document	17.6
Median citations per document	7
Total citations	8,668
Cited references (distinct)	19,763
Author keywords (harmonised)	1,092
Index keywords	450
Authors (Scopus author IDs)	748
Author appearances	875
Single-authored documents	269
Authors of single-authored documents	251
Authors per document	1.77
International co-authorship	19.5%
Open-access documents	211 (42.8%)

Note. Citation counts are Scopus counts on 12 October 2026. Document age and citation windows are measured to 2026, the year of retrieval. The growth rate is the compound annual rate between 2000 and 2025.

Output rose from four to six articles a year before 2006 to a peak of 46 in 2019, spread across 40 journals, and remained between 39 and 43 articles a year in 2022–2025 (Figure 2a). The compound annual growth rate for 2000–2025 is 8.2%, and 66.5% of the articles were published from 2016 onward. Mean citations per citable year peak for the 2010 cohort (3.4), which containsKreutz (2010); values for 2023–2025 reflect short citation windows and are not directly comparable with older cohorts (Figure 2b).

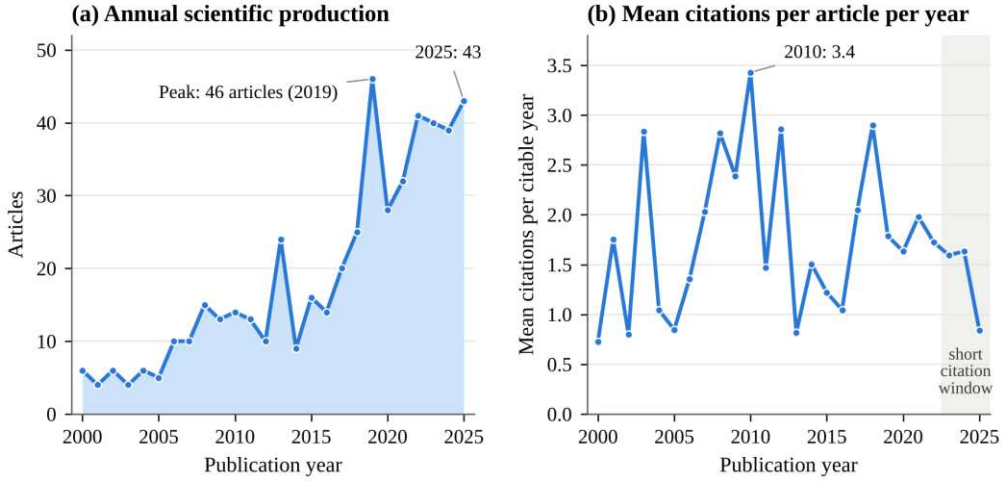


Figure 2. Annual scientific production (a) and mean citations per article per citable year (b), 2000–2025. Citable years run from the publication year to 2026, the year of retrieval; the shaded band marks cohorts with short citation windows.

4.2. Sources and Bradford's law

Output is dispersed across 269 sources, with a small core of peace and conflict journals and a long tail of regional and disciplinary outlets (Figure 3). The most productive are Journal of Peace Research (18 articles; 1,027 citations), International Peacekeeping (16), Journal of

Conflict Resolution (12), Civil Wars (11), African Conflict and Peacebuilding Review (11) and International Interactions (10). Bradford's analysis identifies 22 core sources publishing 162 articles (32.9%); 83 sources form the second zone and 164 the third. *African Conflict and Peacebuilding Review* entered the corpus only in 2021 yet belongs to the core, while its 11 articles have received 8 citations in total; recent regional outlets add volume faster than visibility. Case-based evidence on Colombia, Aceh and Bosnia and Herzegovina also appears in outlets beyond the core.

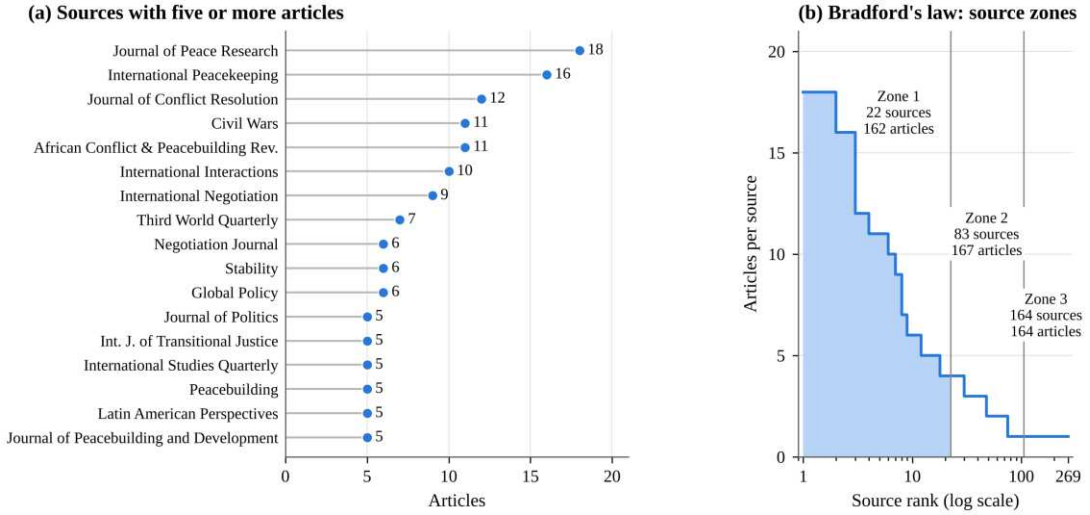


Figure 3. Sources with five or more articles (a) and source zones according to Bradford's law (b). Zones cut the cumulative article count at one third and two thirds of the corpus (n = 493).

4.3. Authors

Author productivity is highly skewed: 674 of 748 authors (90.1%) appear once, 53 appear twice and 21 have three or more articles. Madhav Joshi leads with 18 articles (400 citations; local h-index 12), followed by Jason Michael Quinn (8 articles; 218 citations) and Daniel Druckman (7; 149). Quinn's position becomes visible only after his Scopus name variants are merged through the author identifier. The most productive authors work on implementation datasets, durable-peace measurement, independent commissions and regional peace processes, and recent work on inclusion and subnational violence adds case-level perspectives to long-running cross-national research programmes (Figure 4).

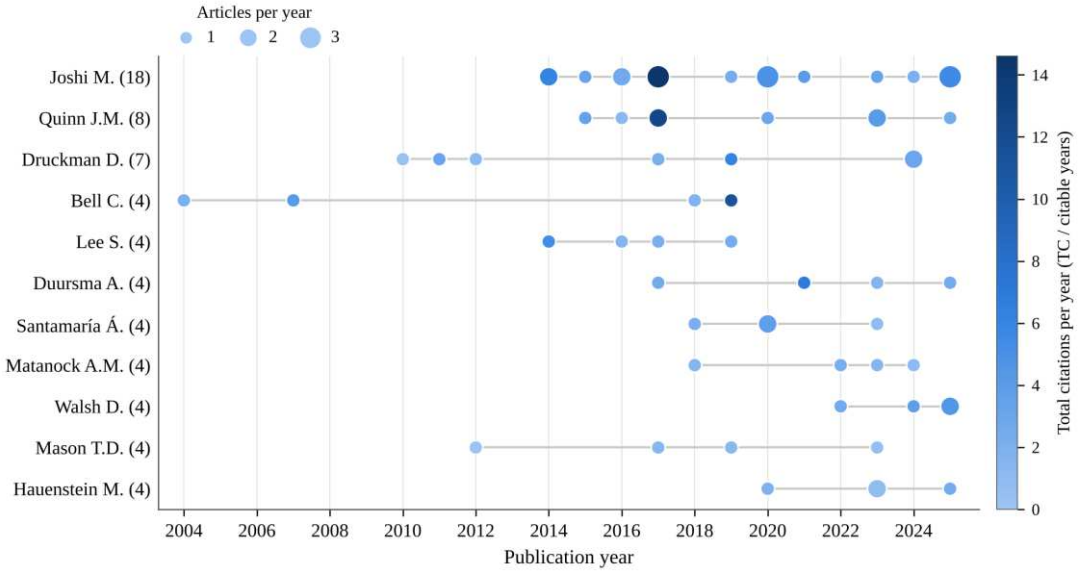


Figure 4. Production over time of the 11 authors with four or more articles. Point size indicates articles per year and shading indicates total citations per citable year; the number of articles is given in parentheses. Authors are identified by Scopus author ID.

4.4. Countries and collaboration

Affiliation-based output is led by the United States (161 articles), the United Kingdom (78) and Colombia (57), followed by Germany (29), Australia (26), Norway (19), Sweden (17), Indonesia (14) and Canada (13). Colombia is both a major affiliation base and the most frequent review case; Indonesian scholarship includes work on Aceh's Helsinki agreement. Strongest collaboration ties link the United States with the United Kingdom (10 joint articles), Colombia (9) and Australia (7). Global South collaboration is rare; Indonesia–Malaysia is the only such pair with more than one joint article (n = 3) (Figure 5).

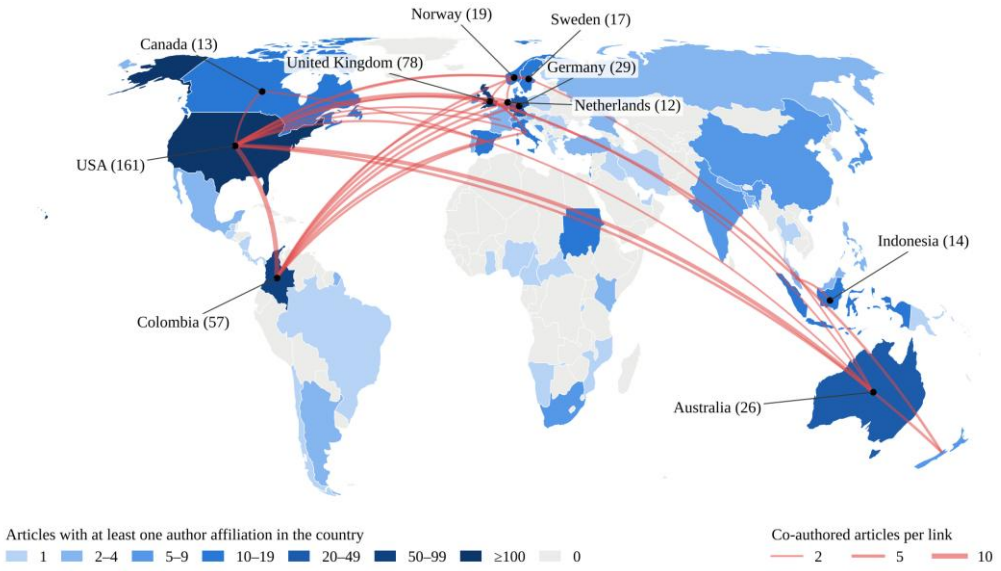


Figure 5. Country scientific production and international co-authorship links. Shading indicates the number of articles with at least one author affiliation in the country; lines indicate co-authorship ties occurring in at least two articles, with width proportional to the number of joint articles. Labels show the ten most productive countries.

Corresponding-author country was available for 337 articles: the United States (99), the United Kingdom (44) and Colombia (26) led (Figure 6). Multiple-country publication shares were 15%, 20% and 12% in these countries, compared with 44% in Italy, 38% in Spain and 36% in Norway; the Netherlands had 4 of 5 articles co-authored internationally. Sweden had the highest mean citations among countries with at least five corresponding-author articles (84.4), largely because of Kreutz (2010). Production geography only partly overlaps with the geography of agreement implementation.

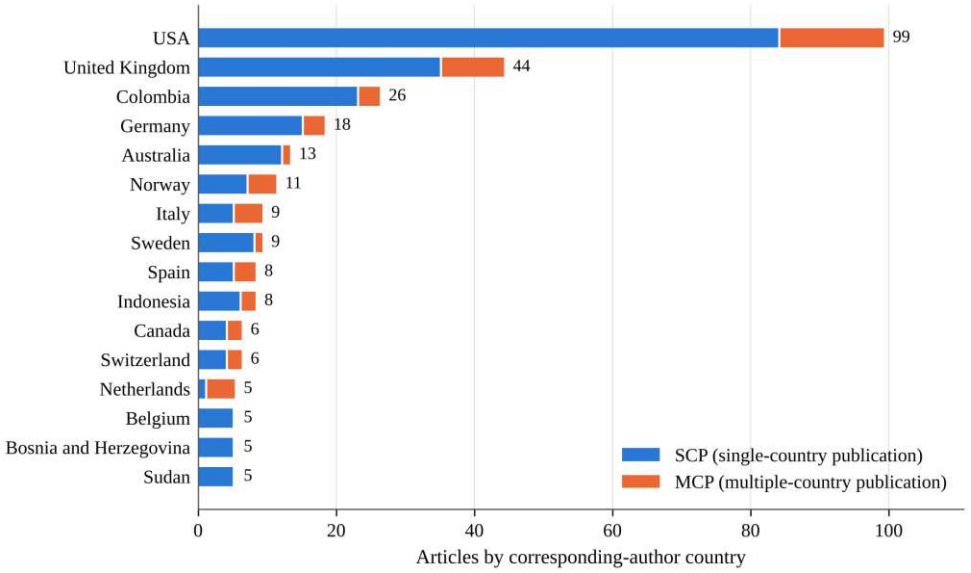


Figure 6. Corresponding authors' countries with at least five articles, split into single-country (SCP) and multiple-country (MCP) publications. Corresponding-author country is available for 337 of the 493 articles.

Kreutz's conflict-termination dataset and the analysis by Krause et al. of women's participation are the most cited items (Table 3), followed by work on agreement strength, civil-society inclusion and spoilers. The pattern points to two influential streams: data infrastructures that make comparison possible, and studies that test particular design mechanisms. The ten most-cited documents also include research on state capacity, disaster diplomacy, spoiler risks, political contestation, biased mediation and civil-society exclusion (DeRouen et al., 2010; Gaillard et al., 2008; Greenhill & Major, 2006; Pearlman, 2008; Svensson, 2009; Wanis-St. John & Kew, 2008). All ten documents were published before 2020, and only Krause et al. (2018) and Fortna (2003) are among the studies included in the full-text review.

Table 3
Ten most globally cited documents in the corpus

Rank	Document	Source	Citations	Citations per year
1	Kreutz (2010)	Journal of Peace Research	471	27.7
2	Krause et al. (2018)	International Interactions	223	24.8
3	Fortna (2003)	International Organization	206	8.6
4	Nilsson (2012)	International Interactions	198	13.2
5	Pearlman (2008)	International Security	174	9.2
6	Greenhill and Major (2006)	International Security	144	6.9

Rank	Document	Source	Citations	Citations per year
7	Gaillard et al. (2008)	Geoforum	141	7.4
8	Svensson (2009)	Journal of Conflict Resolution	138	7.7
9	Wanis-St. John and Kew (2008)	International Negotiation	133	7.0
10	DeRouen et al. (2010)	Journal of Peace Research	113	6.6

Note. Citations are Scopus counts on 12 October 2026. Citations per year divide total citations by the number of years from publication to 2026, inclusive.

4.5. Conceptual structure

The three-field plot links the ten affiliation countries and the ten sources most strongly connected to the 15 most frequent author keywords (Figure 7). Flows from the United States, Colombia and the United Kingdom dominate. Colombian-affiliated work concentrates on Colombia, armed conflict and peacebuilding. In contrast, work with United States affiliations is led by civil war, negotiation and implementation and reaches core journals such as Journal of Conflict Resolution and International Interactions. The keyword Colombia, by contrast, appears most often in International Journal of Transitional Justice and Latin American Perspectives.

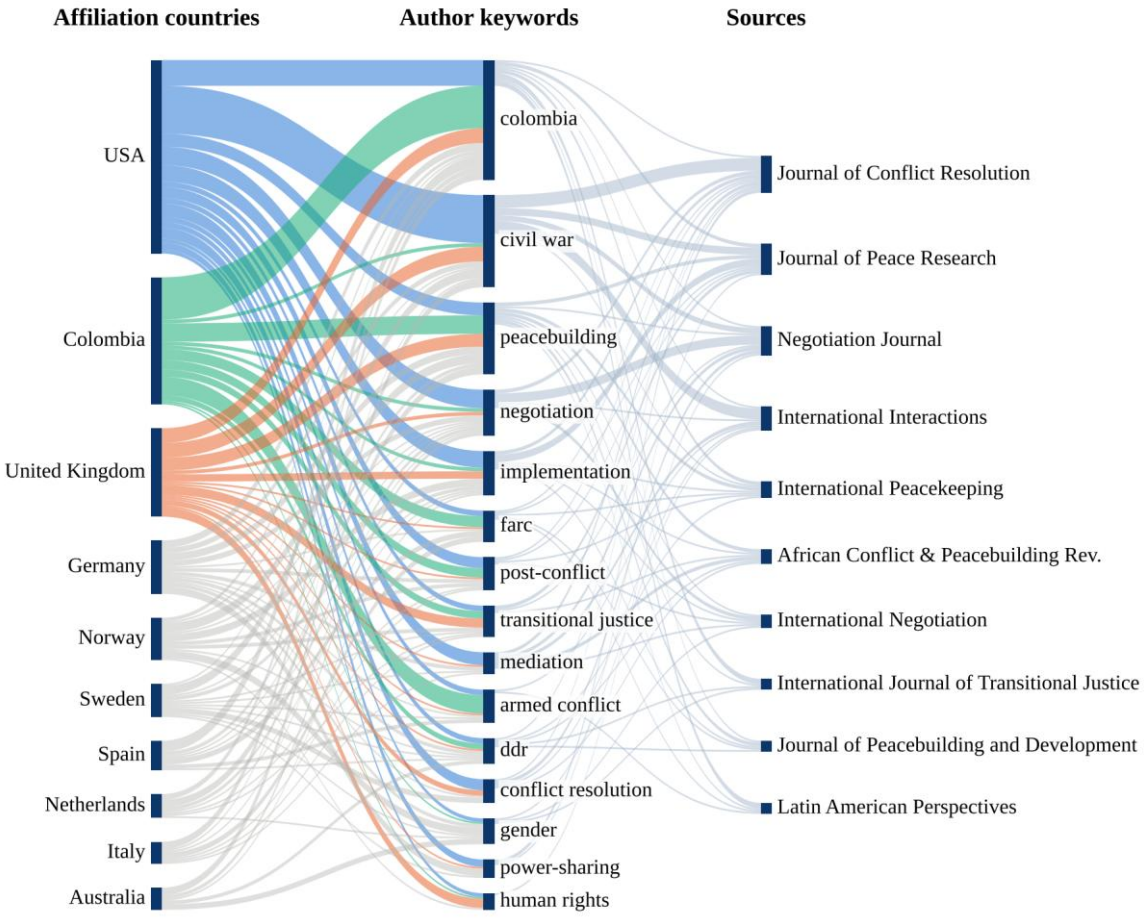


Figure 7. Three-field plot linking affiliation countries (left), the 15 most frequent author keywords (middle) and sources (right). Bandwidth is proportional to the number of shared articles; flows from the three leading countries are coloured.

The keyword co-occurrence network contains six clusters (Figure 8). The largest centres are Colombia (55 occurrences), transitional justice (20), armed conflict (18), DDR and FARC (16 each), violence (11) and land reform (8), with links to Sudan, Darfur and the Juba Agreement. Other clusters connect civil-war bargaining with negotiation, mediation, power sharing, recurrence, spoilers and inclusion; peacebuilding with conflict resolution, gender and durable peace; implementation with human rights and statebuilding; Bosnia and Herzegovina with the EU and Russia; and Aceh with Indonesia and Sri Lanka. Peacebuilding, civil war, implementation, Colombia and negotiation have the highest betweenness, bridging clusters.

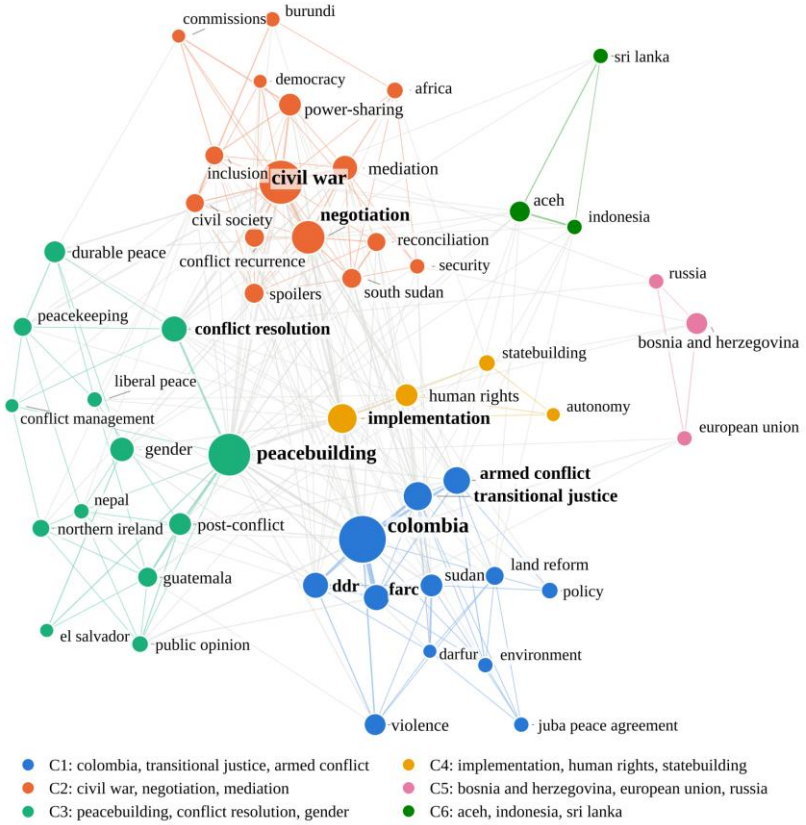


Figure 8. Co-occurrence network of the 50 most frequent harmonised author keywords (association strength, Louvain clustering). Node size reflects keyword frequency and line width reflects the number of co-occurrences; terms reproducing the search string are excluded.

The thematic map groups 87 keywords occurring at least three times into eight clusters (Figure 9). No cluster qualifies as a motor theme, and centrality and density are inversely related (Spearman $\rho = -0.76$). Four large clusters occupy the basic-theme quadrant: negotiation, transitional justice and conflict resolution (150 occurrences); Colombia, armed conflict and FARC (148); civil war, recurrence and Africa (97); and DDR, post-conflict and Guatemala (84). Smaller, dense clusters on power sharing, durable peace and commissions; civil society, inclusion and Burundi; and Bosnia and Herzegovina, the European Union and Russia are niche themes. The peacebuilding, implementation and gender cluster (118) lies near the median intersection, suggesting a broad but not yet consolidated theme.

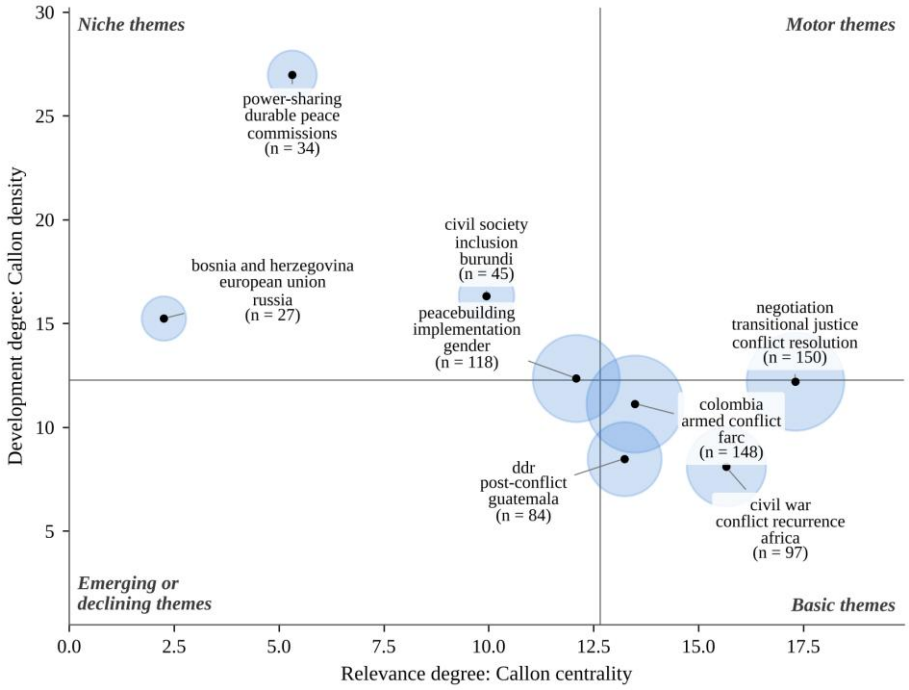


Figure 9. Thematic map of author keywords (strategic diagram). Axes show Callon centrality and density, and the lines mark their medians. Bubble size is proportional to keyword occurrences; labels show the three most frequent keywords in each cluster and the total occurrences.

Thematic structure changes across the three periods (Figure 10). In 2000–2015 (165 articles), clusters centred on peacebuilding and civil war, civil society and inclusion, Sudan and Bosnia and Herzegovina, Aceh and Sri Lanka, and Guatemala and recurrence. In 2016–2020 (133 articles), a Colombia cluster around recurrence, FARC, land reform and spoilers emerged alongside DDR, gender and durable peace. In 2021–2025 (195 articles), this Colombia lineage broadened into a major Colombia–peacebuilding cluster, while other strands addressed negotiation and implementation, mediation in South Sudan, transitional justice and amnesty, DDR and security, and power sharing in commissions.

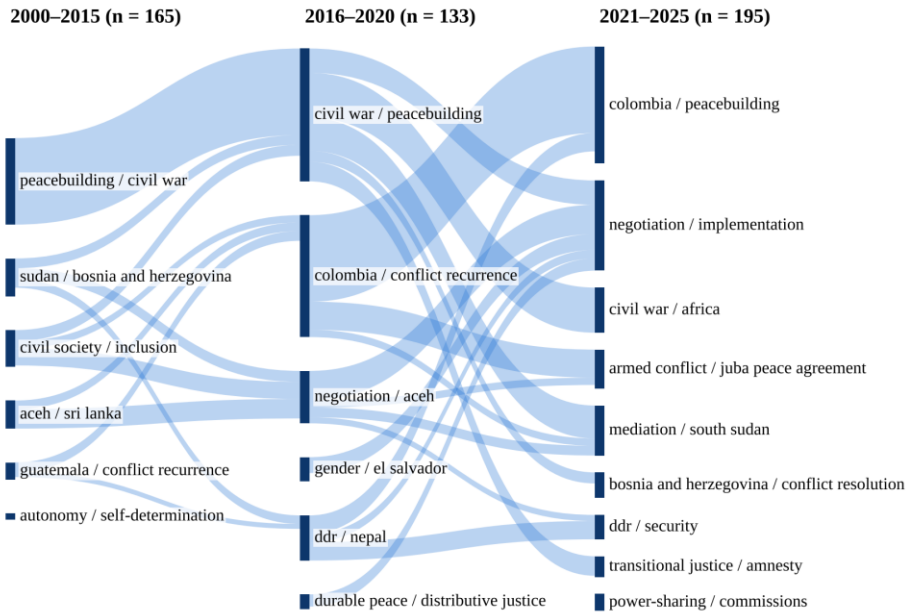


Figure 10. Thematic evolution of author-keyword clusters across three periods. Node height reflects cluster occurrences and band width reflects the occurrences of shared keywords in both periods; links require an inclusion index of at least 0.10.

Trend-topic analysis reinforces this shift: Colombia, FARC and public opinion have the latest median publication year (2023), followed by implementation and armed conflict (2022), and transitional justice and mediation (2021), whereas civil society (2012) and Sudan (2014) peaked earlier (Figure 11).

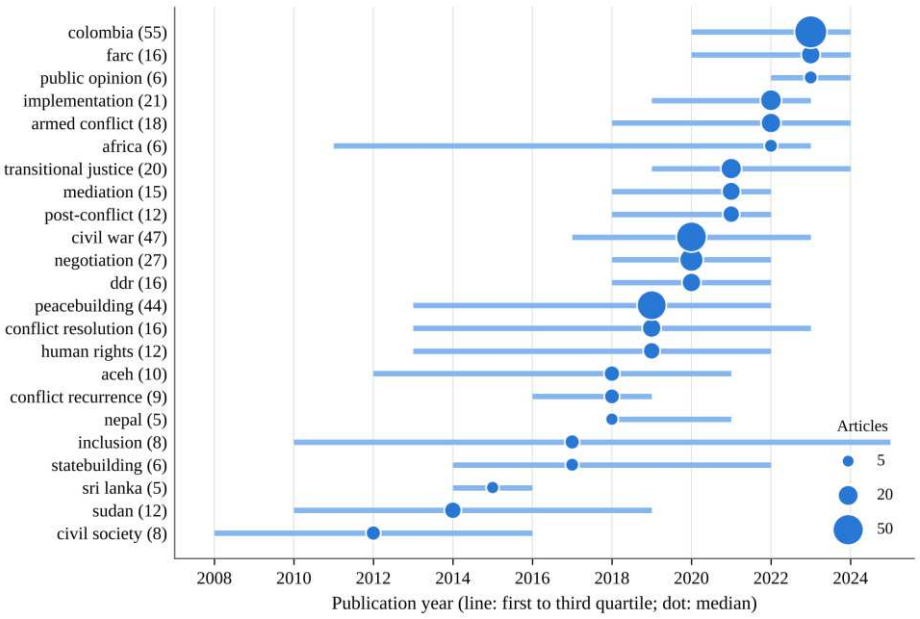


Figure 11. Trend topics in peace agreement implementation research. Lines indicate the interquartile range of publication years, and points indicate the median publication year for keywords with at least five occurrences. Up to three keywords are shown for each median year. Article counts are provided in parentheses.

4.6. Intellectual structure

Co-citation analysis of the 40 most frequently cited references identifies three connected communities and one isolated community (Figure 12). The largest community centres on agreement design, power sharing and implementation; a second links bargaining theory with peacebuilding and peacekeeping; a third centres on spoilers, termination and recurrence. Colombia's 2016 Final Agreement is mentioned in 16 corpus articles but has no qualifying co-citation link, consistent with a case literature anchored in the agreement text rather than the cross-national canon.

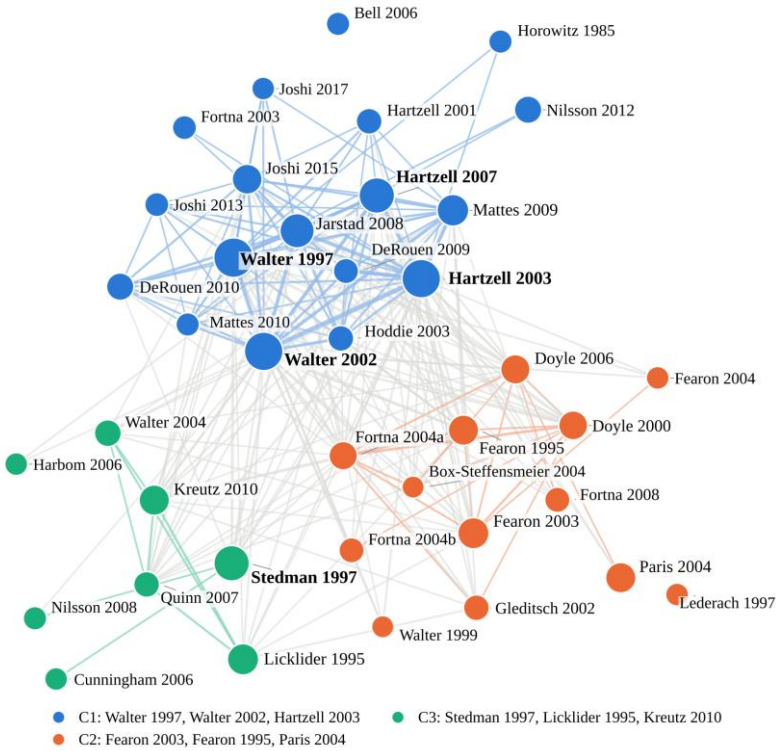


Figure 12. Co-citation network of the 40 most frequently cited references (association strength, Louvain clustering; pairs co-cited by at least three articles). Node size reflects the number of citing articles. For legibility, lines are drawn only for pairs co-cited by at least eight articles. Colombia's 2016 Final Agreement (16 citing articles) has no qualifying link and is omitted.

Two features matter for the synthesis. First, critical and local-turn scholarship is peripheral among the 40 most co-cited references, even though keyword maps show growing attention to inclusion, justice and territorial implementation. Second, 32 of the 40 leading references (80%) predate 2010. Recent empirical work therefore often relies on a theoretical core established before many of the agreements now under study.

5. Systematic review results

5.1. Profile and representativeness of the review corpus

The 104 studies span 2003–2025 (median 2022.5). Primary coding concerns include inclusion/legitimacy (26 studies) and commitment/design (25), followed by security/spoilers (16), material/territorial implementation (14), justice/rights (14) and mediation/support (9). Designs are mainly qualitative (56%) or quantitative (26%); mixed-methods account for 7%, legal-doctrinal 6%, conceptual 5% and set-theoretic 1%. Colombia is a case in 43 studies

(41.3%); Latin America and the Caribbean is the most frequent region (39), followed by global/cross-national designs (25) and Sub-Saharan Africa (15) (Figure 13).

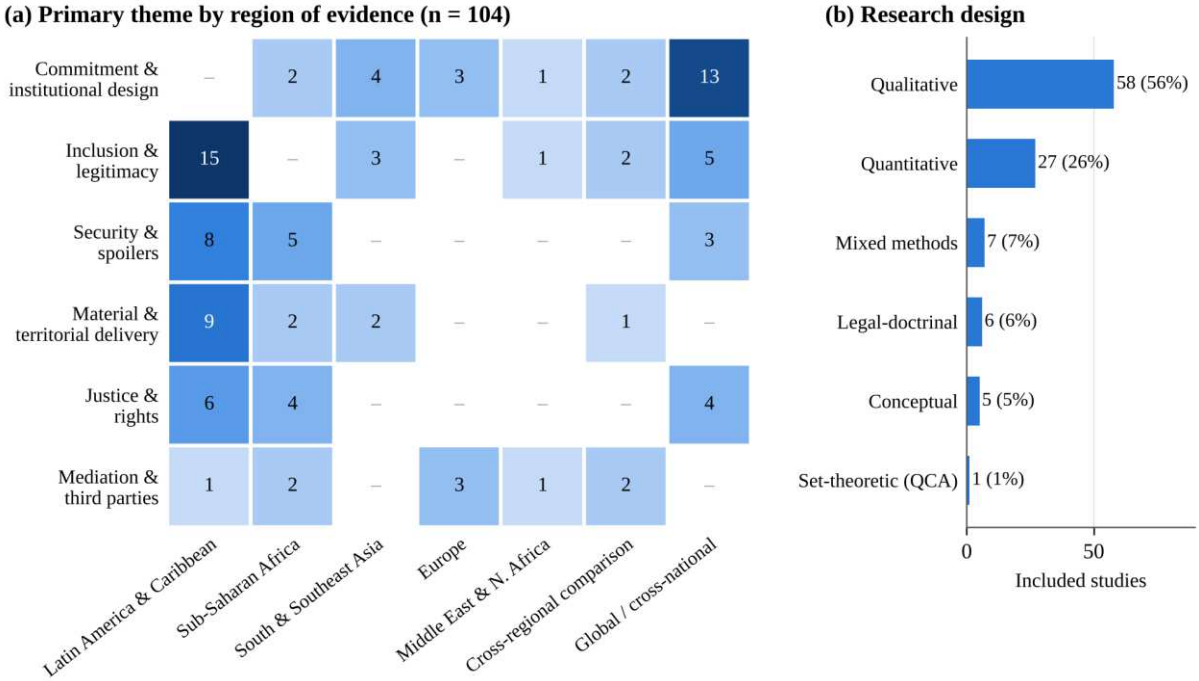


Figure 13. Profile of the 104 included studies: primary theme by region of evidence (a) and research design (b).

Relative to the 389 outside records, included studies are newer (median 2022.5 vs. 2018) and less cited (median 4.5 vs. 7); 65.4% were published in 2021–2025, compared with 32.6% outside. Colombia mentions occur in 41.3% vs. 19.8%. Bradford-core membership is similar (33.7% vs. 32.6%; p = 0.939), while international co-authorship is higher (30.8% vs. 16.5%; p = 0.002). The outside group comprises 341 inaccessible reports and 48 retrieved reports later excluded. These selection diagnostics mean the synthesis represents a recent, Colombia-focused research frontier, not the whole field. A detailed comparison of included studies and records outside the review is presented in Table 4.

Table 4
Comparison of included studies and records outside the review

Indicator	**All records (n = 493)**	**Open access (n = 211)**	**Not open access (n = 282)**	Included review (n = 104)	Outside review (n = 389)	p value
Median publication year	2019	2021	2016.5	2022.5	2018	<0.001
Published 2000–2015 (%)	33.5	16.6	46.1	9.6	39.8	<0.001*
Published 2016–2020 (%)	27.0	31.3	23.8	25.0	27.5	—
Published 2021–2025 (%)	39.6	52.1	30.1	65.4	32.6	—
Median citations	7	6	8	4.5	7	0.006
Mean citations	17.58	13.03	20.99	11.86	19.11	not tested

Indicator	All records (n = 493)	Open access (n = 211)	Not open access (n = 282)	Included review (n = 104)	Outside review (n = 389)	p value
Colombia mentioned (%)	24.3	34.6	16.7	41.3	19.8	<0.001
Bradford core source (%)	32.9	31.3	34.0	33.7	32.6	0.939
International co-authorship (%)	19.5	26.5	14.2	30.8	16.5	0.002

Note. The publication-period p-value is one global Pearson chi-square test (not a category-specific test) across 2000–2015, 2016–2020 and 2021–2025. Year and citation distributions were compared using two-sided Mann–Whitney U tests; continuity-corrected chi-square tests were used for the three binary indicators. "Colombia mentioned" is a title/abstract/keyword term-match proxy, not a validated case classification. P values are selection diagnostics, not adjusted for multiple comparisons; percentages may not sum to 100 because of rounding.

5.2. Credible commitment and institutional design

Agreement content matters, but no single provision resolves commitment problems. Demilitarised zones, third-party guarantees, peacekeeping and joint commissions can extend ceasefires (Fortna, 2003), while comprehensive settlements may reduce risks from unresolved policy domains (Joshi & Quinn, 2015). A 12-case practitioner comparison frames sustainable peace as joint transformation of conflict issues, behaviour and attitudes (Söderberg Kovacs & Svensson, 2025).

Procedures matter alongside provisions. Consensus rules can worsen commitment problems in transitional power-sharing governments, while broader commissions may mitigate them (Johnson, 2025). In independent commissions, international involvement and monitoring or verification are associated with lower recurrence, but domestic inclusion rules show no effect (Neudorfer & Walsh, 2025a, 2025b). Parties may choose power sharing in commissions when commitment problems are acute (Walsh & Neudorfer, 2024). Comprehensive agreements are implemented more fully after partial agreements, conditional on negotiation duration (Joshi et al., 2025). These findings point to sequencing and dispute-resolution authority as scope conditions.

Leadership and bargaining context shape implementation. Insider leader turnover is associated with greater implementation, whereas outsider turnover predicts less(Chakma, 2023). Left-wing executives are associated with fuller implementation than right-wing ones (Chakma, 2024). Fulfilling promises can reduce challenges by non-signatories (Joshi & Quinn, 2016). Work on mutual interstate interventions links termination to battlefield incentives and commitment credibility (Tamm & Duursma, 2023); public, legalised and inclusive negotiations may reduce information and commitment problems (Bakiner, 2019).

Institutions that reassure in the short term may entrench divisions. Dayton stabilised Bosnia and Herzegovina but reinforced ethnic representation and nationalist competition (Muhasilović & Halilović, 2025; Özoflu & Besgul, 2023). Cultural accommodation can strengthen leaders' reputations, while integrationist reforms may complicate their ability to commit followers (Fontana & Masiero, 2023). Identity concessions support durable peace only when implemented (Daniels, 2025). In Aceh, self-government was narrowed to special autonomy amid weak enforcement (Manan et al., 2024; Zainal et al., 2022). Southern

Thailand's settlement prospects depend on credible leadership and insurgent cohesion (Lamey, 2013); implementation gaps also appear in the Chittagong Hill Tracts and Israeli–Palestinian agreements (Ahmmed et al., 2013; Masyrofah, 2019). Constitutional embedding can conflict with existing legal arrangements (Celis-Vela, 2020; Ozcelik & Olcay, 2020).

5.3. Inclusion, participation and legitimacy

Research has shifted from whether inclusion matters to who participates, what influence they wield and under which conditions. Women's participation is associated with more durable peace and higher implementation, especially when women signatories work with women's civil-society groups (Krause et al., 2018). Inclusive commissions and procedural justice are associated with durable-peace outcomes, though some measures of rebel legitimacy or mobilisation are not (Cuhadar & Druckman, 2024; Druckman et al., 2024). Citizen-centred approaches broaden analysis beyond elite negotiators (Haass et al., 2022).

Case studies expose the gap between formal presence and influence. In Bangsamoro, women helped legitimise negotiations, but some rights were deferred, and gender implementation depended on government priorities, organisations and external finance (Duque-Salazar et al., 2022; Jopson, 2023). In Colombia, gender provisions lag behind others amid financing gaps, state-level implementation barriers and local power relations (Bachmann, 2025; Davies & True, 2022; García, 2024; Joshi, 2025). Participatory programmes can reproduce exclusion: Bachmann (2023) examines nominal inclusion, while Vélez-Torres et al. (2022) show how Colombia's participation model can constrain substantive influence. Research on Indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities, disability, LGBTQIA+ claims, Indo-Naga politics and colonial legacies similarly finds that recognition may coexist with marginalisation, while accord language can aid advocacy (Fontana & Costantini, 2025; Haokip, 2023; Hartviksen, 2025; Przyborowski, 2025; Ruiz Moreno & Postigo Gómez, 2023; Wright et al., 2023). Digital tools can create safety risks for women peacebuilders (Hustead, 2024).

Legitimacy is political, not merely procedural. Colombian referendum support reflected partisanship and victimisation; campaign information shifted opinion among less-informed voters, while organised No campaigns opposed ratification(Dávalos et al., 2018; Masullo & Morisi, 2019; Tappe Ortiz & Arévalo, 2025). Citizens and legislators interpret agreements through elite cues and perceptions of post-conflict violence (Garbiras-Díaz et al., 2024; García-Sánchez et al., 2023; Wyer, 2025). Ramírez (2022) show that public opinion toward peace agreements remained politically contested during Iván Duque's administration. Media narratives, heterogeneous ratification debates and agonistic approaches likewise show that disagreement persists after signature (Rodríguez Iglesias, 2020; Strömbom et al., 2022; Zalzberg & Ravitzky, 2022). In Cesar, empowered participation may support citizen security but be resisted violently by elites (McGill, 2024).

5.4. Security, spoilers and post-agreement violence

Signing does not remove incentives for violence. Pro-government militias face higher recurrence risks partly because they are often excluded from negotiations and DDR (Steinert et al., 2019). One-sided violence during implementation is associated with lower implementation, while intra-party spoiling varies with vertical or horizontal divisions (Joshi,

2020; Nilsson & Söderberg Kovacs, 2023). In Sudan, security-sector reform can become part of power struggles rather than a neutral technical process(de Waal, 2017; Tchie & Ali, 2021).

Subnational evidence shows how national peace indicators can miss persistent violence. In KwaZulu-Natal, postwar violence followed wartime ties between armed groups and local elites(van Baalen & Höglund, 2019). In Colombia, attacks on social leaders track local electoral competition and criminal economies (Albarracín, Corredor-Garcia, et al., 2023; Albarracín, Milanese, et al., 2023). Studies of human-rights defenders and northern Mali similarly connect spoilers to local politics and illicit economies (Garzón-Vergara, 2015; Haugegaard, 2017; Trejos Rosero et al., 2019; Villamizar-Acosta, 2019).

Outcome measures also alter judgements of success. A survival analysis of 48 civil wars finds negotiated agreements can be at least as strongly associated with enduring peace as military victories(Gromes & Ranft, 2021). Reintegration depends on land, security and institutions: Colombian cantonments aided community reintegration, while the Niger Delta amnesty stabilised oil production yet marginalised women and generated contestation (Barrios Sabogal, 2024; Okonofua, 2016). Colombian military and police adaptation remained slow and partial (Mijares & González, 2021; Pérez-Salazar et al., 2025).

5.5. Material and territorial implementation

Material and territorial provisions aim to address conflict grievances. Still, implementation in Colombia remains uneven: rural reform faces entrenched land interests and weak institutions, territorial peace intersects with policing and militarised conservation, and urban peripheries fit poorly with a rural design (Durán & Rodríguez, 2025; Olarte-Olarte, 2019; Stienen, 2020; Varela Sánchez, 2019). Comparative studies also stress trust, security and technical capacity (Vanelli & Ochoa Peralta, 2022; Vuković et al., 2024).

Material delivery can alter political behaviour without ensuring satisfaction or equity. Colombian territorial programmes affected turnout and vote shares, but implementation activity was not robustly associated with agreement satisfaction in a 12,000-respondent panel(Gelvez & Johnson, 2024; Otero-Bahamón et al., 2025). Durable peace did not always yield an economic dividend (Wagner & Druckman, 2017). In Aceh, autonomy funding was associated with growth but less clearly with poverty reduction amid patronage and weak planning (Safaruddin et al., 2025; Sustikarini, 2019). Land rights in Burundi and Sudan remained shaped by power relations (Bisoka & Giraud, 2021; Sørbø, 2010), while business elites in Guatemala and El Salvador supported security provisions yet obstructed more transformative reforms (Bull & Aguilar-Støen, 2019).

5.6. Justice, rights and accountability

Rights provisions do not guarantee uptake. Analysis of 357 agreements finds that human-rights language serves multiple peace-related purposes(Lacatus, 2024). While the Universal Periodic Review may support implementation only within limits (Molloy, 2024). Equality and procedural-justice provisions are associated with aspects of durable peace (Wagner & Druckman, 2017); divergent approaches to amnesty among conflict-resolution and human-rights professionals can hinder implementation (Seul, 2019).

Implementation generates normative tensions. Colombia's special sanctions must balance retribution, reparation, participation and reincorporation, while amnesty institutions

face insecurity and high caseloads(Giraldo Muñoz, 2025; Sandoval et al., 2022). Public apologies by former FARC leaders did not improve reintegration attitudes on average and drew negative responses from agreement opponents (Agneman et al., 2025). In South Sudan, Uganda and Burundi, timing, elite manoeuvring and international discourse shaped transitional justice (Macdonald, 2019; Magara, 2021; Taylor, 2013). Research on West Nile and postwar Guatemala further shows that justice processes contest who is recognised as a victim or rights holder (Bogner & Neubert, 2013; Hartviksen, 2025).

5.7. Mediation and third-party support

Mediators and external supporters affect agreement design and implementation capacity. African mediation has shifted toward regional organisations, neighbours and joint formats, though great-power interests persist (Gallagher & Ahamed, 2025). Third-party guarantees and sustained political or financial support have helped in Northern Ireland, Colombia, Aceh and Georgia, conditional on domestic ownership and donor coordination (Braniff, 2013; Polack, 2024; White, 2018). Financing gaps limit support for gender-inclusive peace (Davies & True, 2022).

External leverage has limits. Repeated accords in Côte d'Ivoire failed amid weak local implementation; the Office of the High Representative stabilised Bosnia and Herzegovina while raising ownership concerns; and external actors brought competing views of sovereignty, democracy and security to Moldova and Ukraine (Albulescu, 2023; Beširović, 2025; Huseinspahić, 2025; Monyane et al., 2014). Informal local networks also shape Track One processes (Meininghaus, 2021). External support enables but cannot replace domestic institutions and coalitions.

5.8. Convergences, qualifications and apparent contradictions

Three cross-study patterns help reconcile apparently contradictory results (Table 5). First, institutional arena matters: consensus rules may increase recurrence risk in transitional governments yet lower it in commissions handling bounded disputes(Johnson, 2025; Neudorfer & Walsh, 2025b). Second, outcome measurement matters: inclusive commissions may improve multidimensional peace quality without measurably changing recurrence (Cuhadar & Druckman, 2024; Neudorfer & Walsh, 2025b). Third, level of analysis matters: participation can support legitimacy while exposing local leaders to selective violence where state protection is weak (Albarracín, Milanese, et al., 2023; Krause et al., 2018; McGill, 2024). This is a qualitative synthesis, not a pooled estimate of effects.

Table 5
Cross-study relationship matrix: convergences, qualifications and apparent contradictions

Mechanism	Convergent findings	Qualifying or contradictory findings	Reconciling scope condition
Credible commitment and institutional design	Stronger, more comprehensive and sequenced agreements are associated with durability and implementation (Fortna, 2003; Joshi & Quinn, 2015; Joshi et al., 2025)	Consensus rules may raise recurrence in power-sharing governments but lower it in commissions (Johnson, 2025; Neudorfer & Walsh, 2025b), ethnic power sharing may entrench divisions (Agarin & Jarrett, 2026; Muhasilović & Halilović, 2025)	Arena matters: bounded commissions differ from governments; reassurance also needs cross-cutting incentives.
Inclusion, participation and legitimacy	Women signatories and inclusive commissions are associated with durable peace (Cuhadar & Druckman, 2024; Krause et al., 2018)	Formal inclusion can coexist with no detected recurrence effect or continued exclusion (Vélez-Torres et al., 2022; Walsh & Neudorfer, 2024).	Inclusion may improve peace quality more than recurrence; influence matters more than presence.
Security, spoilers and post-agreement violence	Militias, one-sided violence and criminal economies undermine implementation (Garzón-Vergara, 2015; Joshi, 2020; Steinert et al., 2019)	Aggregate violence may fall while selective attacks on social leaders rise (Albarracín, Milanese, et al., 2023; Krause et al., 2018; McGill, 2024).	National indicators miss subnational and actor-specific violence.
Material and territorial implementation	Territorial programmes affect political behaviour, and land governance remains central (Gelvez & Johnson, 2024; Vanelli & Ochoa Peralta, 2022)	Delivery may not raise satisfaction; benefits can be captured by patronage networks (Otero-Bahamón et al., 2025; Sustikarini, 2019).	Targeting, attribution and capture condition whether delivery builds legitimacy.
Justice, rights and accountability	Equality and justice provisions support durable peace; human-rights language serves multiple purposes (Bates, 2026; Lacatus, 2024; Wagner & Druckman, 2017)	Implementation gaps, contested timing and backlash to apologies complicate justice delivery (Agneman et al., 2025; Macdonald, 2019; Magara, 2021)	Sequencing and domestic ownership shape whether justice stabilises or destabilises peace.
Mediation and third-party support	Guarantees, monitoring and aid can support implementation; mediation has become more regional and joint (Kertcher & Lutmar, 2026; Nilsson & Svensson, 2026; Polack, 2024)	External leverage can fail without local will and can displace domestic ownership (Beširović, 2025; Monyane et al., 2014; Tamm & Duursma, 2023)	External support should enable, not replace, domestic institutions and coalitions.

Note. Citations refer to studies included in the systematic review, except Agarin and Jarrett (2026), Bates (2026), Kertcher and Lutmar (2026) and Nilsson and Svensson (2026), which were published after the 2000–2025 review window and are cited as corroborating evidence only.

6. Discussion: A Conditional Alignment Framework

6.1. Connecting the maps and the mechanisms

The bibliometric layer maps a field whose intellectual base remains rationalist, while recent work examines implementation, gender, transitional justice and subnational violence. The full-text review then traces how institutional rules become lived outcomes: commitments are tested, inclusion becomes influence or exposure, and territorial or justice provisions can alter or reproduce wartime grievances.

The two layers have limits: keyword prominence is not theoretical convergence, since "implementation" can mean provision completion, citizen satisfaction or bureaucratic practice. Because the review is restricted to retrievable full texts and is newer, less cited and more Colombia-focused than the wider corpus, it underrepresents older, highly cited work. The SLR therefore organises mechanisms while the bibliometric map locates them in the field's intellectual structure.

6.2. The framework

The framework identifies five mechanism families (Figure 14): credible commitment (D1), through rules, guarantees, commissions and sequencing; inclusive legitimacy (D2), through meaningful participation; security and spoiler management (D3), through DDR, armed-faction management and protection; material/territorial delivery (D4), through land, autonomy, reform and services; and justice/rights (D5), through accountability and recognition. Mediation and third-party support are an enabling layer, not a sixth core dimension. The contribution is to specify conditional interactions among these established mechanisms.

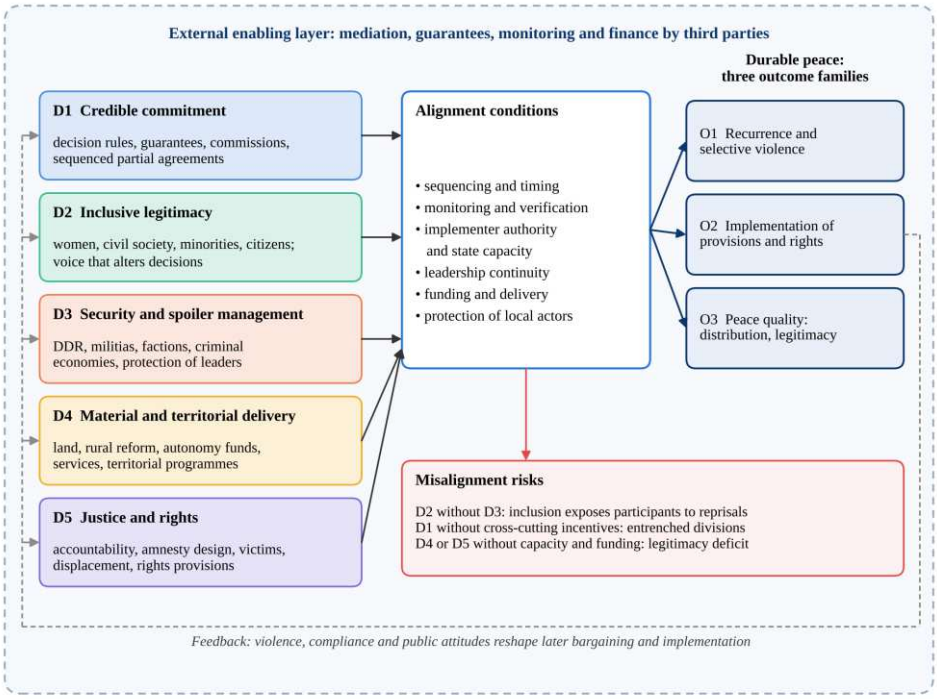


Figure 14. The Conditional Alignment Framework for durable peace. Five mechanism families (D1 to D5) shape three outcome families (O1 to O3) through alignment conditions; misalignment between families generates distinctive risks, and outcomes feed back into later bargaining and implementation.

Alignment is functional compatibility, not simple co-presence or an additive count. Inclusion must connect voice to decision influence and protection; material and justice provisions must be deliverable and fairly distributed; and security institutions must prevent violence without closing peaceful contestation. Misalignment includes participation without protection, power sharing without cross-cutting incentives, and commitments without resources. Outcomes remain distinct: recurrence/selective violence (O1), implementation of provisions and rights (O2), and broader peace quality, including distribution and public legitimacy (O3). Violence, compliance and public attitudes feed back into later bargaining.

Four conditional propositions follow. P1 (institutional capacity): credible procedures and guarantees are more likely to support implementation and reduce recurrence when responsible institutions have the authority, resources and monitoring capacity to apply them. P2 (protected inclusion): inclusion is more likely to improve legitimacy and peace quality when participants can influence decisions and are protected from reprisals; nominal representation without influence or protection may not deliver these benefits. P3 (equitable delivery): material provisions and justice measures are more likely to improve peace quality when delivery is timely, fairly distributed, publicly attributable to the agreement and protected from elite capture. P4 (adaptive security): where state protection and local enforcement remain weak, armed networks, former combatants, local elites and criminal economies may adapt to post-agreement institutions, allowing selective violence to persist even if large-scale recurrence declines. These propositions are interpretive deductions from heterogeneous studies, not effects statistically tested by this review; they specify observable relationships for future comparative research. Table 6 summarises the Conditional Alignment Framework, including its dimensions, indicators and failure modes.

Table 6

Conditional Alignment Framework: dimensions, mechanisms, indicators and failure modes

Dimension	Causal mechanism	Observable indicators	Failure mode to test
D1 Credible commitment	Rules, guarantees and commissions reduce uncertainty and the incentive to defect.	Decision rules, third-party guarantees, monitoring bodies, partial agreements, leader turnover.	Veto paralysis, outsider leader turnover, unverified guarantees.
D2 Inclusive legitimacy	Voice conveys information, improves procedural fairness and links social preferences to policy.	Seats for women and civil society, decision influence, inclusive commissions, public support.	Token inclusion, misperceived preferences, reprisals against participants.
D3 Security and spoiler management	Implementation changes the payoffs of armed actors; DDR and protection constrain violence.	DDR completion, militia inclusion, factional splits, criminal economies, attacks on leaders.	Excluded armed affiliates, illicit rents, selective violence, security vacuums.
D4 Material and territorial delivery	Land, autonomy and services show whether root causes are being addressed.	Land titling and redistribution, execution of funds, territorial programmes, regional variation.	Formal compliance without benefits, elite capture, uneven delivery.
D5 Justice and rights	Accountability and recognition reduce impunity and reassure affected groups.	Victims' rights, amnesty design, truth commissions, displacement and gender provisions.	Clauses without uptake, selective accountability, backlash.

Dimension	Causal mechanism	Observable indicators	Failure mode to test
Alignment conditions	Sequencing, monitoring, implementer authority, leadership continuity and local protection connect D1 to D5.	Implementation sequencing, verification reports, bureaucratic capacity, protection programmes.	Misalignment: inclusion without protection, power sharing without cross-cutting incentives, provisions without funding.

Note. The framework is an interpretive synthesis of the included studies; propositions P1 to P4 are stated in Section 6.2.

The framework's contribution is not a new list of mechanisms but a conditional account of their interaction: formal commitment has limited value when legitimacy, capacity, distribution or protection are misaligned. It turns a broad synthesis into a comparative agenda with observable indicators and failure modes.

7. Research agenda

First, link agreement provisions to subnational implementation, public attitudes and violence by region and year. Combining agreement datasets, surveys and time-series evidence would test whether national averages conceal local variation in delivery, legitimacy and post-agreement violence.

Second, inclusion research should specify causal pathways rather than count participants. The key questions are whether included actors influence decisions, budgets and monitoring, whether excluded groups contest the agreement peacefully, and whether participation creates security risks. Comparisons between Colombia, Bangsamoro, Northern Ireland and Aceh could test how inclusion interacts with enforcement capacity and elite competition.

Third, spoiler research should connect armed-group incentives to criminal economies and to post-agreement political institutions. Studies of militias, fragmentation and selective violence suggest that actors adapt by shifting from battlefield control to political, economic or coercive influence. Datasets should therefore distinguish former combatants, pro-government armed groups, criminal networks, subnational elites and intra-party factions rather than treating spoilers as a single category.

Fourth, durable peace requires multidimensional and temporally explicit measurement. A decline in battle deaths can coexist with targeted violence, weak uptake of rights or deteriorating public attitudes. Studies should report recurrence, one-sided and selective violence, completion of implementation, rights protection, distributive delivery and legitimacy as separate outcomes, use comparable outcome windows, and make counterfactuals explicit when comparing negotiated settlements with military victories.

Fifth, the field should broaden its geographical and epistemic base. The concentration of production in the United States and Europe, and of cases in Colombia, limits generalisation. Agreements in Africa, South and Southeast Asia and the Middle East are studied far less often than their number would suggest, and collaboration among scholars from conflict-affected countries is rare. Comparative designs that select cases to test the competing predictions of the framework, for instance, when power sharing reassures without entrenching divisions, when rights implementation builds legitimacy and when inclusion becomes dangerous, would advance both theory and practice.

8. Limitations

Bibliometric coverage is limited to English-language journal articles indexed in Scopus Social Sciences; books, non-English scholarship and other subject areas may be underrepresented. The analysis uses complete years (2000–2025), so 2026 records were excluded, and recent citation windows remain immature. The corresponding-author country is missing for 156 records. Keyword harmonisation involves judgement, especially merging "women" and "gender"; network results also depend on thresholds and clustering. Workbook settings support reproducibility, but a full threshold-sensitivity analysis was not conducted. Findings describe the specified corpus, not all peace-agreement research.

Only 104 verified full texts entered the review; these are newer, less cited and more Colombia-focused than the 389 outside records. Retrieval failed for 341 records, leaving substantial access-related selection bias that observed tests cannot eliminate. One researcher screened and coded; no inter-coder statistic or standardised risk-of-bias score was produced. S13 abstract sentences support identification and traceability, not full-text quotation; the narrative synthesis draws on verified full texts. Designs, definitions and time windows vary, so estimates were not pooled. The framework remains interpretive and requires comparative testing.

9. Conclusion

This study maps 493 Scopus-indexed journal articles (2000–2025) and synthesises 104 verified full texts. The intellectual base centres on commitment problems, power sharing, spoilers and recurrence; recent work pays greater attention to implementation, inclusion, justice and subnational violence. The review is recent and disproportionately focused on Colombia, limiting generalisation.

Durable peace cannot be inferred from agreement text or formal compliance alone. Outcomes depend on whether commitment institutions, meaningful and protected inclusion, security, material/territorial delivery and justice/rights operate compatibly under specific institutional and societal conditions. The Conditional Alignment Framework distinguishes recurrence/selective violence, implementation of provisions/rights and broader peace quality, and sets out four conditional propositions. Its contribution is not that the mechanisms are new, but that their interactions can reinforce or undermine one another under different conditions. Comparative studies must operationalise alignment, track outcomes over time and select contrasting cases to establish its scope.

Declarations

Funding

The authors received no specific funding for this work.

Competing interests

The authors declare no competing interests.

Contribution

Muhamad Rizal Dhiyas Resindra contributed to the conceptualization, methodology, data curation, formal analysis, investigation, visualization, and preparation of the original manuscript draft, as well as its review and editing. **Yenis Contesa** contributed to the conceptualization, investigation, validation, and critical review and editing of the manuscript. **Ali Muhammad** contributed to the methodological development, supervision, validation, and critical review and editing of the manuscript. **Ahmad Sahide** contributed to the supervision, validation, and critical review and editing of the manuscript. All authors reviewed and approved the final version of the manuscript.

Data availability

The Supplementary Workbook contains the Scopus-derived record-level metadata used for bibliometric descriptions, the search and screening logs, included-study coding, and an excerpt register with page locators. Search settings and network thresholds are specified in Section 3.3. No analysis script is included in the workbook; network results should be interpreted in light of the documented preprocessing and parameter choices.

Ethics and Consent to Participate declarations

Not applicable.

References

Agarin, T., & Jarrett, H. (2026). Unfortunate electoral designs for postconflict democracies: Lessons from Dayton for the Western Balkans. *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics*. https://doi.org/10.1080/13537113.2025.2557106

Agneman, G., Strömbom, L., & Rettberg, A. (2025). Do apologies promote the reintegration of former combatants? Lessons from a video experiment in Colombia. *Journal of Peace Research*. https://doi.org/10.1177/00223433241261560

Ahmmed, H. U., Masud, M., Faisal, M., & Morshed, M. (2013). The Chittagong Hill Tracts peace accord in Bangladesh: An overview. *Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences*. https://doi.org/10.5901/mjss.2013.v4n4p123

Albarracín, J., Corredor-Garcia, J., Milanese, J. P., Valencia, I. H., & Wolff, J. (2023). Pathways of post-conflict violence in Colombia. *Small Wars and Insurgencies*. https://doi.org/10.1080/09592318.2022.2114244

Albulescu, A. M. (2023). Democracy, sovereignty, and security: Understanding the normative approaches of third parties involved in the conflicts in Moldova and Ukraine. *Frontiers in Political Science*. https://doi.org/10.3389/fpos.2023.1229814

Baalen, S., & Höglund, K. (2019). "So, the killings continued": Wartime mobilization and post-war violence in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. *Terrorism and Political Violence*. https://doi.org/10.1080/09546553.2017.1318126

Bachmann, T. (2023). Exclusion despite nominal inclusion: A critical analysis of participatory development programmes in post-war Colombia. *Bulletin of Latin American Research*. https://doi.org/10.1111/blar.13438

Bachmann, T. (2025). State officials' impact on peace agreement implementation: Insights from Colombia. *Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding*. https://doi.org/10.1080/17502977.2025.2459359

Bakiner, O. (2019). Why do peace negotiations succeed or fail? Legal commitment, transparency, and inclusion during peace negotiations in Colombia (2012–2016) and

Turkey (2012–2015). *Negotiation Journal*. https://doi.org/10.1111/nejo.12301
Bates, G. (2026). Threats and commitments: International tribunals and domestic trials in peace negotiations. *American Political Science Review*. https://doi.org/10.1017/s0003055425101317
Bell, C., & Badanjak, S. (2019). Introducing PA-X: A new peace agreement database and dataset. *Journal of Peace Research*. https://doi.org/10.1177/0022343318819123
Besgul, B. (2023). A critical analysis of neoliberal state-building in Bosnia and Herzegovina: The gap between aims and achievements. *Corvinus Journal of Sociology and Social Policy*. https://doi.org/10.14267/cjssp.2023.1.6
Beširović, B. (2025). The role of the Office of the High Representative in the implementation of the Dayton Peace Agreement with a special focus on the perspective of EU integration. *Historijski Pogledi*. https://doi.org/10.52259/historijskipogledi.2025.8.14.444
Bisoka, A. N., & Giraud, C. (2021). An anatomy of liberal peace from the case of land tenure in Burundi: Towards an intermedial perspective. *Journal of Peacebuilding and Development*. https://doi.org/10.1177/1542316620956934
Bogner, A., & Neubert, D. (2013). Negotiated peace, denied justice? The case of West Nile (Northern Uganda). *Africa Spectrum*. https://doi.org/10.1177/000203971304800303
Braniff, M. (2013). The European Union building peace near and afar: Monitoring the implementation of international peace agreements. *Journal of Contemporary European Research*. https://doi.org/10.30950/jcer.v9i5.491
Bull, B., & Aguilar-Støen, M. (2019). Peace-building and business elites in Guatemala and El Salvador: Explaining the discursive 'institutional turn.' *Conflict, Security and Development*. https://doi.org/10.1080/14678802.2019.1561635
Celis-Vela, D. A. (2020). Constitutional amendment and transitional justice: Towards a flexible interpretation of the defining elements of a current constitution. *Juridicas*. https://doi.org/10.17151/jurid.2020.17.2.3
Chakma, A. (2023). *Leadership changes and civil war peace agreements: Does who comes to power influence the implementation? International Peacekeeping, 30(1), 24–52*. https://doi.org/10.1080/13533312.2023.2173584
Chakma, A. (2024). Government ideology and the implementation of civil war peace agreements. *Conflict, Security and Development*. https://doi.org/10.1080/14678802.2023.2294451
Cuhadar, E., & Druckman, D. (2024). *Let the people speak! What kind of civil society inclusion leads to durable peace? International Studies Perspectives, 25(3), 359–381*. https://doi.org/10.1093/isp/ekad019
Daniels, L.-A. (2025). *Identity concessions in ethnic civil wars: When are they given and with what outcomes for peace? Journal of Peace Research, 62(4), 1191–1204*. https://doi.org/10.1177/00223433241289813
Dávalos, E., Morales, L. F., Holmes, J. S., & Dávalos, L. M. (2018). Opposition support and the experience of violence explain Colombian peace referendum results. *Journal of Politics in Latin America*. https://doi.org/10.1177/1866802x1801000204
Davies, S. E., & True, J. (2022). Follow the money: Assessing Women, Peace, and Security through financing for gender-inclusive peace. *Review of International Studies*. https://doi.org/10.1017/s0260210522000122
DeRouen, K., Ferguson, M. J., Norton, S., Park, Y. H., Lea, J., & Streat-Bartlett, A. (2010). Civil war peace agreement implementation and state capacity. *Journal of Peace Research*. https://doi.org/10.1177/0022343310362169
Druckman, D., Vuković, S., & Verbeek, N. (2024). Rebel group legitimacy, ideology and durable peace. *International Journal of Conflict Management*.

https://doi.org/10.1108/ijcma-01-2023-0015
Duque-Salazar, J. D., Forsberg, E., & Olsson, L. (2022). Implementing gender provisions: A study of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro in the Philippines. *International Negotiation*. https://doi.org/10.1163/15718069-bja10068
Durán, A. L., & Rodríguez, L. A. (2025). Militarization of anti-peasant forest conservation: The case of the Amazon Forest Reserve Zone (AFRZ) after the Colombian 2016 peace agreement. *Forest and Society*. https://doi.org/10.24259/fs.v9i1.36927
Fontana, G., & Costantini, G. (2025). Mapping disability in war-to-peace transitions: Global patterns and the Lebanese experience. *Disability and Society*. https://doi.org/10.1080/09687599.2024.2412276
Fontana, G., & Masiero, I. (2023). Beyond reassurance: The reputational effect of cultural reforms in peace agreements. *Government and Opposition*. https://doi.org/10.1017/gov.2021.62
Fortna, V. P. (2003). Scraps of paper? Agreements and the durability of peace. *International Organization*. https://doi.org/10.1017/s0020818303572046
Gaillard, J.-C., Clavé, E., & Kelman, I. (2008). Wave of peace? Tsunami disaster diplomacy in Aceh, Indonesia. *Geoforum*. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoforum.2007.10.010
Gallagher, M., & Ahamed, S. (2025). The changing face of peace: African mediation and paradigm transitions. *African Studies Quarterly*. https://doi.org/10.32473/asq.23.2.136992
Garbiras-Díaz, N., García-Sánchez, M., & Matanock, A. M. (2024). Political elite cues and attitude formation in post-conflict contexts. *Journal of Peace Research*. https://doi.org/10.1177/00223433231168189
García-Sánchez, M., Matanock, A. M., & Garbiras-Díaz, N. (2023). Do citizens' preferences matter? Shaping legislator attitudes towards peace agreements. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. https://doi.org/10.1177/00220027221099245
Garzón-Vergara, J. C. (2015). Avoiding the perfect storm: Criminal economies, spoilers, and the post-conflict phase in Colombia. *Stability*. https://doi.org/10.5334/sta.fx
Gelvez, J. D., & Johnson, M. (2024). Los nadies y las nadies: The effect of peacebuilding on political behavior in Colombia. *Latin American Politics and Society*. https://doi.org/10.1017/lap.2023.34
Greenhill, K. M., & Major, S. (2006). The perils of profiling: Civil war spoilers and the collapse of intrastate peace accords. *International Security*. https://doi.org/10.1162/isec.2007.31.3.7
Gromes, T., & Ranft, F. (2021). Preventing civil war recurrence: Do military victories really perform better than peace agreements? Causal claim and underpinning assumptions revisited. *Civil Wars*. https://doi.org/10.1080/13698249.2022.2004043
Haass, F., Hartzell, C. A., & Ottmann, M. (2022). Citizens in peace processes. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. https://doi.org/10.1177/00220027221089691
Haokip, K. (2023). Indo-Naga peace parleys and the Kukis: A plea for an inclusive approach. *Asian Journal of Peacebuilding*. https://doi.org/10.18588/202309.00a322
Hartviksen, J. (2025). "We are citizens too": LGBTQIA+ claims for human rights in postwar Guatemala. *Gender & Development*. https://doi.org/10.1080/13552074.2025.2560105
Haugegaard, R. (2017). Sharia as "desert business": Understanding the links between criminal networks and Jihadism in Northern Mali. *Stability: International Journal of Security & Development*. https://doi.org/10.5334/sta.494
Huseinspahić, A. (2025). Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Bosniaks in the context of the Saint-Germain and Dayton peace agreements: The evolution of a nation. *Historijski Pogledi*. https://doi.org/10.52259/historijskipogledi.2025.8.14.237
Hustead, M. (2024). Women peacebuilders in Colombia and new digital solutions. *Global*

Policy. https://doi.org/10.1111/1758-5899.13331
Iglesias, A. I. R. (2020). Imagining peace(s) in Colombia: Between negotiations, policies, and resisting narratives. *Araucaria*. https://doi.org/10.12795/araucaria.2020.i43.05
John, A., & Kew, D. (2008). Civil society and peace negotiations: Confronting exclusion. *International Negotiation*. https://doi.org/10.1163/138234008x297896
Johnson, C. (2025). Stabilising transitions from conflict: The importance of transitional decision-making procedures. *International Political Science Review*. https://doi.org/10.1177/01925121251319756
Jopson, T. L. (2023). Moro women's participation and legitimation in the Bangsamoro peace process. *Journal of Current Southeast Asian Affairs*. https://doi.org/10.1177/18681034231178327
Joshi, M. (2020). A comparative analysis of one-sided violence and civil war peace agreement implementation. *Stability*. https://doi.org/10.5334/sta.774
Joshi, M. (2025). Does the implementation status of gender provisions affect the implementation of a peace agreement? Evidence from Colombia's 2016 peace agreement implementation process. *Policy Studies Journal*. https://doi.org/10.1111/psj.12584
Joshi, M., & Quinn, J. M. (2015). Is the sum greater than the parts? The terms of civil war peace agreements and the commitment problem revisited. *Negotiation Journal*. https://doi.org/10.1111/nejo.12077
Joshi, M., & Quinn, J. M. (2016). Watch and learn: Spillover effects of peace accord implementation on non-signatory armed groups. *Research and Politics*. https://doi.org/10.1177/2053168016640558
Joya, C. A., & Ramírez, D. (2022). "Shattering peace": Peace agreements and public opinion in Colombia during Iván Duque's administration. *Signo y Pensamiento*. https://doi.org/10.11144/javeriana.syp41.sppa
Kertcher, C., & Lutmar, C. (2026). Explaining the post-October 7 durability of Israel's peace deals with Egypt and Jordan. *Middle East Policy*. https://doi.org/10.1111/mepo.70053
Kovacs, M., & Svensson, I. (2025). Triangulating peace: How adversaries build sustainable peace through negotiated settlements. *Negotiation Journal*. https://doi.org/10.1162/ngtn_a_00023
Krause, J., Krause, W., & Bränfors, P. (2018). Women's participation in peace negotiations and the durability of peace. *International Interactions*. https://doi.org/10.1080/03050629.2018.1492386
Kreutz, J. (2010). How and when armed conflicts end: Introducing the UCDP Conflict Termination Dataset. *Journal of Peace Research*. https://doi.org/10.1177/0022343309353108
Lacatus, C. (2024). Balancing legalism and pragmatism: A qualitative content analysis of human rights language in peace agreements. *Journal of Human Rights Practice*. https://doi.org/10.1093/jhuman/huad038
Lamey, J. (2013). Peace in Patani? The prospect of a settlement in Southern Thailand. *Stability*. https://doi.org/10.5334/sta.bt
Macdonald, A. (2019). "Somehow this whole process became so artificial": Exploring the transitional justice implementation gap in Uganda. *International Journal of Transitional Justice*. https://doi.org/10.1093/ijtj/ijz011
Magara, I. S. (2021). Timing of transitional justice mechanisms and the implications for the South Sudan peace process. *Journal of the British Academy*. https://doi.org/10.5871/jba/009s2.009
Manan, A., Rasyad, R., Saputra, I. R., Daud, A., Tuffahati, Z., & Champion, I. (2024). Morality and immorality in politics in Aceh post 2005 MoU Helsinki (a case study on

the relevance of actions compared with peace promises). *Jurnal Ilmiah Peuradeun*. https://doi.org/10.26811/peuradeun.v12i3.1295
Masullo, J., & Morisi, D. (2019). Risks and opportunities of direct democracy: The effect of information in Colombia's peace referendum. *Politics and Governance*. https://doi.org/10.17645/pag.v7i2.1903
Masyrofah, N. (2019). Israel's violations of the international agreement in Siyasah Kharijiyyah (study of Israeli-Palestinian peace agreement 1993–2007). *Ahkam: Jurnal Ilmu Syariah*. https://doi.org/10.15408/ajis.v19i1.10890
McGill, D. (2024). Re-theorising the participation-security nexus in war-to-peace transitions. *Peacebuilding*. https://doi.org/10.1080/21647259.2023.2211834
Meininghaus, E. (2021). A new local turn for Track One peace process research: Anthropological approaches. *Negotiation Journal*. https://doi.org/10.1111/nejo.12371
Mijares, V. M., & González, P. A. (2021). Colombian military transformation: Strategic reality and overcoming resistances. *Austral: Brazilian Journal of Strategy and International Relations*. https://doi.org/10.22456/2238-6912.100193
Molloy, S. (2024). The Universal Periodic Review and peace agreement implementation: Conceptualising connections, challenges, and ways forward. *London Review of International Law*. https://doi.org/10.1093/lril/lrae010
Monyane, M., Sibawu, N., Molapo, R., & Twala, C. (2014). The role of regional, continental and international organisations in solving the Ivorian crisis: Gains and challenges. *Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences*. https://doi.org/10.5901/mjss.2014.v5n27p1073
Moreno, S. L., & Gómez, M. I. (2023). Narratives of Indigenous women victims of the Colombian conflict after the signing of the peace agreement. *Athenea Digital*. https://doi.org/10.5565/rev/athenea.3359
Muhasilović, J., & Halilović, M. (2025). Bosnia's 2022 election law changes international influences and responses. *Historijski Pogledi*. https://doi.org/10.52259/historijskipogledi.2025.8.14.468
Muñoz, M. (2025). Amnesties as a means of encouraging transition and strengthening the application of IHL in Colombia: The case of the Special Jurisdiction for Peace. *International Review of the Red Cross*. https://doi.org/10.1017/s1816383124000262
Neudorfer, N. S., & Walsh, D. (2025a). I. (n.d.). *Neudorfer, N. S., & Walsh, D. (2025a). Introduction to special issue: Inclusion and commissions in peace processes. International Political Science Review, 46(5), 641–653.* https://doi.org/10.1177/01925121251341883
Neudorfer, N. S., & Walsh, D. (2025b). T. (n.d.). *Neudorfer, N. S., & Walsh, D. (2025b). The peacemaking role of independent commissions: The role of institutional design. International Political Science Review, 46(5), 654–671.* https://doi.org/10.1177/01925121241310858
Nilsson, D. (2012). Anchoring the peace: Civil society actors in peace accords and durable peace. *International Interactions*. https://doi.org/10.1080/03050629.2012.659139
Nilsson, D., & Kovacs, M. S. (2023). Dealing with divergence: Intra-party dynamics and spoiler management in civil wars. *Journal of Global Security Studies*. https://doi.org/10.1093/jogss/ogad003
Nilsson, D., & Svensson, I. (2026). Bringing them in or leaving them out? Mediator types and civil society inclusion in peace talks. *Journal of Peace Research*. https://doi.org/10.1093/jopres/xjag024
Okonofua, B. A. (2016). The Niger Delta Amnesty Program: The challenges of transitioning from peace settlements to long-term peace. *SAGE Open*. https://doi.org/10.1177/2158244016654522

Olarte-Olarte, M. C. (2019). From territorial peace to territorial pacification: Anti-riot police powers and socio-environmental dissent in the implementation of Colombia's peace agreement. *Revista de Estudios Sociales*. https://doi.org/10.7440/res67.2019.03
Ortiz, J., & Arévalo, J. (2025). No-campaigns in peace referendums. *Contemporary Politics*. https://doi.org/10.1080/13569775.2024.2384209
Otero-Bahamón, S., Pantoja-Barrios, S., Steele, A., Kurpan, C., & Binningsbø, H. M. (2025). The micro-foundations of peace: Attitudes towards the implementation of Colombia's peace agreement in war-affected regions. *International Peacekeeping*. https://doi.org/10.1080/13533312.2025.2471445
Ozcelik, A., & Olcay, T. (2020). (Un)constitutional change rooted in peace agreements. *International Journal of Constitutional Law*. https://doi.org/10.1093/icon/moaa090
Pearlman, W. (2008). Spoiling inside and out: Internal political contestation and the Middle East peace process. *International Security*. https://doi.org/10.1162/isec.2009.33.3.79
Pérez-Salazar, B., Silva-García, G., González-Monguí, P. E., & Vizcaíno-Solano, A. (2025). The Colombian National Police's peacebuilding model in the post-agreement period. *Revista Cientifica General Jose Maria Cordova*. https://doi.org/10.21830/19006586.1438
Polack, A. (2024). The European Union's support of the implementation of the peace process in Colombia. *Global Policy*. https://doi.org/10.1111/1758-5899.13374
Przyborowski, K. (2025). The 2016 Colombian peace agreement and colonial continuities. *Latin American Perspectives*. https://doi.org/10.1177/0094582x251337705
Rosero, L., Sarmiento, R., & Quijano, Y. (2019). Colombian Caribbean Region: Between peacebuilding and the persistence of conflict. *Jurídicas CUC*. https://doi.org/10.17981/juridcuc.15.1.2019.01
Sabogal, L. C. (2024). From cantonments to settlements: Lessons for reintegration of former combatants from the Colombian peace process. *International Peacekeeping*. https://doi.org/10.1080/13533312.2024.2391765
Sánchez, D. F. V. (2019). Rural land reforms in Colombia: Policy and institutional challenges for the new administration. *Vniversitas*. https://doi.org/10.11144/javeriana.vj138.rlrc
Sandoval, C., Martínez-Carrillo, H., & Cruz-Rodríguez, M. (2022). The challenges of implementing special sanctions (sanciones propias) in Colombia and providing retribution, reparation, participation and reincorporation. *Journal of Human Rights Practice*. https://doi.org/10.1093/jhuman/huac032
Seul, J. R. (2019). Coordinating transitional justice. *Negotiation Journal*. https://doi.org/10.1111/nejo.12245
Sørbø, G. M. (2010). Local violence and international intervention in Sudan. *Review of African Political Economy*. https://doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2010.483890
Steinert, C. V., Steinert, J. I., & Carey, S. C. (2019). Spoilers of peace: Pro-government militias as risk factors for conflict recurrence. *Journal of Peace Research*. https://doi.org/10.1177/0022343318800524
Stienen, A. (2020). (Re)claiming territory: Colombia's "territorial-peace" approach and the city. *Geographica Helvetica*. https://doi.org/10.5194/gh-75-285-2020
Strömbom, L., Bramsen, I., & Stein, A. L. (2022). Agonistic peace agreements? Analytical tools and dilemmas. *Review of International Studies*. https://doi.org/10.1017/s0260210522000055
Sustikarini, A. (2019). Financing peace: Special autonomy fund as a peace dividend in Aceh, Indonesia. *Journal of ASEAN Studies*. https://doi.org/10.21512/jas.v7i2.5787
Svensson, I. (2009). Who brings which peace? Neutral versus biased mediation and institutional peace arrangements in civil wars. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. https://doi.org/10.1177/0022002709332207

Tamm, H., & Duursma, A. (2023). Combat, commitment, and the termination of Africa's mutual interventions. *European Journal of International Relations*. https://doi.org/10.1177/13540661221112612
Taylor, D. (2013). "We have no influence": International discourse and the instrumentalisation of transitional justice in Burundi. *Stability*. https://doi.org/10.5334/sta.ch
Tchie, A. E. Y., & Ali, H. E. (2021). Restructuring state power in Sudan. *Economics of Peace and Security Journal*. https://doi.org/10.15355/epsj.16.1.41
Vanelli, F., & Peralta, D. (2022). Territorial peace: Land governance and sustainable peacebuilding. *International Journal of Urban Sustainable Development*. https://doi.org/10.1080/19463138.2022.2054814
Vélez-Torres, I., Gough, K., Larrea-Mejía, J., Piccolino, G., & Ruette-Orihuela, K. (2022). "Fests of vests": The politics of participation in neoliberal peacebuilding in Colombia. *Antipode*. https://doi.org/10.1111/anti.12785
Villamizar-Acosta, C. (2019). Violence situation against human rights defenders in Colombia after the peace agreement. *Juridicas CUC*. https://doi.org/10.17981/juridcuc.15.1.2019.08
Waal, A. (2017). Peace and the security sector in Sudan, 2002–11. *African Security Review*. https://doi.org/10.1080/10246029.2017.1297582
Wagner, L., & Druckman, D. (2017). Drivers of durable peace: The role of justice in negotiating civil war termination. *Group Decision and Negotiation*. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10726-016-9511-9
Walsh, D., & Neudorfer, N. S. (2024). Caring is sharing: Why independent commissions in post-conflict societies have power-sharing arrangements. *Journal of Peace Research*. https://doi.org/10.1177/00223433231164448
White, T. J. (2018). American diplomacy and economic aid in the Northern Ireland peace process: A neoliberal analysis. *Open Library of Humanities*. https://doi.org/10.16995/olh.255
Wright, C., Rolston, B., & Aoláin, F. (2023). Navigating colonial debris: Structural challenges for Colombia's peace accord. *Peacebuilding*. https://doi.org/10.1080/21647259.2022.2027153
Wyer, F. (2025). Who's to blame? Post-conflict violence, political messaging, and attitudes towards peace agreements. *British Journal of Political Science*. https://doi.org/10.1017/s0007123424000760
Zainal, S., Askandar, K., & Abubakar, M. B. (2022). Why was "self-government" not achieved in Aceh? The challenges of implementing a peace agreement. *Jurnal Ilmiah Peuradeun*. https://doi.org/10.26811/peuradeun.v10i3.789
Zalzberg, O., & Ravitzky, R. (2022). Negotiations in heterogeneous societies: Ratifying a peace agreement in Israel. *Negotiation Journal*. https://doi.org/10.1111/nejo.12412

Supplementary Files

This is a list of supplementary files associated with this preprint. Click to download.

- SupplementaryWorkbookS1CitationAuditedFinal.xlsx