

Aarhus Center for Conflict Management (Aarcon)

Start-up workshop

May 23, 2023

Today's agenda

1. Round of introduction
2. Introduction to Aarcon
3. Facilitated dialogues
 1. What kind of centre activities would be meaningful to you?
 2. How would you like to get involved, and how can you contribute?
 3. Would you like to be affiliated with the new centre (with a profile on the website)?
4. What are the next steps?



Round of introduction

1. Who are you?
2. Why are you here today?

30 seconds per person 😊



Introduction to Aarcon

- **Aspiration:** Not "just" a standard research centre
- **Inclusiveness:** An interdisciplinary centre where everyone who would like to make some kind of contribution to the centre is welcome to be affiliated (researchers, students, practitioners)
- **Dynamic bottom-up approach:** We do whatever the affiliated people would like to do (ownership, a "playful/experimenting" approach, where we also try to challenge established assumptions, would be great)
- **A few ideas:** Research presentations and feedback, practical training and supervision, development of new projects, promotion of new collaborations, promotion of student projects, a centre publication series



Introduction to Aarcon

- **What is the centre?** Basically, the centre is people who are affiliated
- **Who established the centre?** The School of Culture and Society at Aarhus University
- **Where is the centre located?** Moesgaard Campus, which is where most of the people from the steering group have their offices (we do not have a specific building)
- **What kind of resources do we have?** Our time and energy; we can use rooms at Aarhus University and the museum for free; later, we may generate funding for Aarcon via projects and other activities
- **Centre management in the autumn:** Me, Ida Kromann (intern), steering group, advisory board





Steering group

Advisory board





Current affiliated projects

- After Access to Justice: Exploring the Development of Local Dynamics and Perceptions of Justice in Northern Uganda after the ICC's Access to Justice Project
- Anthropology of Human Security in Africa: ANTHUSIA
- Fencing the Feral: Biosecurity and the Invasive Other in Danish-German Borderlands
- Imagining Gender Futures in Uganda
- Konfliktråd Impact Project
- Settler Colonial Beasts
- Territorial Phantom Pain: Exploring the Post-Conflict Environment of Territorial Loss, Crisis and Non-Return in the Republic of Georgia
- Eur-Asian Border Lab

Concrete ideas for Aarcon activities

- **Aarcon conferences:** Two per year (December and June) with different types of activities: "normal" presentations; idea workshops (writings in progress, project proposals, etc.); training, and...?
 - **Responsible in the autumn:** Christian and Ida
- **Aarcon publication:** Published twice a year (at the same time as the conferences)
 - **Responsible in the autumn:** Mikel, Ida, and editorial board

Short group dialogues:
Any questions?



Facilitated dialogues

1. What kind of centre activities would be meaningful to you?
2. How would you like to get involved, and how can you contribute?
3. Would you like to be affiliated with the new centre (with a profile on the website)?

Please open shared [Google document](#) 😊

I would like to take a few pictures for our website if that is okay for you...



Next steps

1. Creation of website profiles (<https://aarcon.au.dk>)
2. Organization of the first Aarcon conference in December
3. Preparation of the first Aarcon publication
4. Contact me if you would like to organize something before December (gade@cas.au.dk)
5. Join our new LinkedIn group "[Aarhus Centre for Conflict Management \(Aarcon\)](#)" for easy communication

Look forward to seeing you again 😊