



## Special Session Proposal

### Regional Development and Sustainable Peace

Organisers:

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#### Introduction

The Special Session aims to attract scientific papers that look into the interactions between people across space using sound replicable methods and showing effective evidence to support regional policies and aim sustainable development.

The Special Session wants to give Regional Scientists the chance to show innovative multidisciplinary work on the spatial effects of conflicts, with special attention to the Middle East, to Ukraine, to India/Pakistan, to Armenia/Azerbaijan, to Sudan and Mali and to other conflicts around the world. We welcome researchers from these regions or with work related to these regions to assess the socioeconomic consequences or effects of conflict and peace across space.

#### The Focus

Trying to understand the multiple causes of conflicts in the world (political, cultural, religious, historical, etc.), and in the Middle East, to Ukraine, to India/Pakistan, to Armenia/Azerbaijan, to Sudan and Mali, analysing the role of regional and global powers in conflicts and evaluate their impact on regional development are not simple tasks of this Special Session. Nevertheless, we also aim to use Regional Science methodologies to understand the impact of sustainable peace (or the lack of conflicts) on the regional development of those regions, providing an evidence-based knowledge to inform policy decisions and potential avenues for improvement.

#### The Expectations

Inspired by Walter Isard, the founder of the field of Regional Science, and his interest in Peace Science, this Special Session will combine techniques and methodologies of Regional Science with Peace Science topics such as conflict management, resolution and sustainable peace, with special focus on the Middle East, Ukraine, India/Pakistan, Armenia/Azerbaijan, Sudan and Mali.

This Special Session could include, among others, the following topics:

1. Impacts of conflicts/sustainable peace on the economic performance of the countries-regions along the last decades.
2. Conflicts/sustainable peace and the commuting and shopping behaviour (for instance using a spatial interaction urban model).

4. Social and spatial integration processes.
5. Sustainable country borders.
6. Sustainable peace and rents allocation of natural and locational resources.
7. Sense of belonging.
8. Migration Flows and conflicts.
9. Cost Benefit Analysis of Peace/conflict.