

Subject:

YouthImPact Special Edition Ezine Good Relations Week 2025



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Good Relations Week 2025

13 to 19 October

CONNECT

People — Planet — Prosperity

Good Relations Week 2025

Good Relations Week 2025 embraces 'Connect' as its theme, recognising that the foundation of a better community is built on People, Planet, and Prosperity, all connected by the goal of Peace.

In this EZINE YouthImPact have collated a selection of practical resources, relevant research reports, and links to upcoming events that PEACEPLUS Youth Programme workers may find useful to support their engagement with young people throughout the year.

Beyond Our Walls – Good Relations Training

This YouthImPact facilitated 1-day Good Relations training for PEACEPLUS Youth Programme Workers draws on 'Beyond Our Walls' a resource developed by Youth Link NI. The interactive session is designed to support workers to reflect on their values and what they need to engage in conversations with young people around legacy issues and contemporary social themes. The training moves through a process of self-awareness, exploring the Beyond Our Wall toolkit which participants will receive a copy of on the day.

Date: Friday 17th October 2025

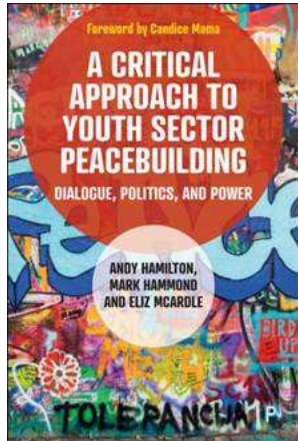
Times: 10.00am – 4.00pm (including networking lunch)

Venue: Dungannon Town

Registration: Contact your line manager or your PEACEPLUS Youth Programme Project Co-ordinator for details of how to register for the session.

A Critical Approach to Youth Sector Peacebuilding

This recently published book uses Northern Ireland as a compelling case study and offers a critique of peacebuilding approaches with young people in contested societies. In the north of Ireland, the spectre of murderous violence is increasingly distant for peace-agreement generations. However, legacies stemming from the 30 years of protracted conflict are ever-present in young people's segregated lives. This book presents four distinctive viewpoints that inform contemporary peacebuilding work with young people, revealing divergent purposes and conflicting aspirations. Offering a new model to understand peacebuilding, the authors urge peacebuilding communities around the globe to embrace an increasingly politicising and participative youth peace praxis. Find out more click



→ [HERE](#)

Where do I Stand? Youth work and peacebuilding

Save the Date for this joint [Critical Voice NI](#) & YouthImPact organised event, which draws on 'A Critical Approach to Youth Sector Peacebuilding'. The session is open to youth workers, managers and stakeholders from across the voluntary and statutory sectors, and PEACEPLUS Youth Programme staff, with an interest in exploring peacebuilding through youth work.

Date: Thursday 27 November 2025

Time: 10.00am – 12.00pm

Venue: Ulster University, Belfast

To express your interest in attending the event click → [HERE](#)

Contemporary Peacebuilding Issues for Young People in Northern Ireland

Professor Brandon Hamber & Eliz McArdle provide a summary of the main issues for young people coming out of the Peace Summit in April 2024, which involved 100 young people from different backgrounds. Their short publication sets out how more needs to be done to place young people's needs and aspirations for the future at the heart of public policy and decision-making. The 12 key interrelated issues outlined in the report will resonate with the lived experience of young people across the island, for example, *"Young people value new communities and diversity, but worry about racism and the marginalisation of these communities"*. If you'd like a copy of an activity to explore this paper with young people or staff teams, click → [HERE](#)

[//Contemporary Peacebuilding Issues for Young People in Northern Ireland – Peace Summit Partnership 2024. PDF](#)

Transforming Hate in Youth Work Settings

An educational tool and practice manual from NYC's [Equality & Intercultural Programme](#) that focuses on the youth worker, and their practice. It looks at self-awareness, taking a needs-based approach to the issue, and building connections with young people through empathic listening. Its companion resource is **Beyond Hate: a journey with young people toward inclusion** and both publications can be accessed through the link below.
<https://www.youth.ie/articles/transforming-hate-manual-activity-resource/>

Peace & Justice: it's up to YOUTH

This resource from NYC's [Global Youth Work Programme](#) focuses on Goal 16 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions. It provides activities for youth workers to engage young people on some of the key issues of our time, reflect on root causes and consequences, and consider contemporary and future pathways to peace, justice, equality, and human rights.
<https://www.youth.ie/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/PeaceJusticeSDGsResource-Web.pdf>

Working with LGBTQI+ Young People

For materials, support and resources in engaging and including young people who identify as LGBTQI+ in your PEACEPLUS Youth Programme project, check out the websites of [Belong To](#), the national LGBTQ+ youth organisation in Ireland, and [Cara-Friend](#), the LGBTQIA+ organisation supporting young people in Northern Ireland.

Young Peacebuilders Handbook

Young Peacebuilders (YPB) is a peace education initiative from the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), designed to support young people in gaining skills that can enhance their positive role in peace and security issues and in preventing violent conflict. The initiative also brings visibility to actions initiated by young people towards peace and the promotion of diversity and dialogue.
<https://www.unaoc.org/wp-content/uploads/Young-Peacebuilders-Handbook-EN-v4-CF.pdf>

Good Relations Week 2025

To keep up to date with events near you across Good Relations week 2025, visit
<https://goodrelationsweek.com/events/>

Other papers, publications and resources worth checking out are...

What is this Peace?

This 2018 YouthPact paper reviews the literature on peacebuilding, community relations and youth work with a particular focus on the influence of conflict on the lives of young people.
[://What_is_this_Peace_PDF](#)

Gearing Up for Transformative Practice

A 2019 YouthPact reflective practice tool designed to support youth workers to consider and develop approaches that promote respect for diversity and enhance inclusive practice.

[://TransformativePractice_PDF](#)

I haven't Been Affected by the Conflict, But...

A YouthAction NI resource that draws on Dr Martin McMullan's PhD research which found that many young people could not, at first sight, recognise or identify how the conflict in Northern Ireland affected them. However, upon further reflection young people were able to identify multiple ways in which the legacy of the conflict affected their everyday routines, choices and behaviours, e.g., flags, safety, sectarianism, education and friendships.

[://Ihaven'tBeenAffectedbytheConflict,But...PDF](#)

Wall2Wall

In April 2025 Springboard Opportunities launched an impact report focusing on their Wall2Wall project, capturing insights into the lives of young people who grew up living beside Belfast's longest peace line. The report and video documenting participants' experiences can be accessed using the link below.

[://Wall2Wall_report_&_video](#)

North-South Youth Work Sector Practice Development Hub

Check out this [North-South Hub](#) curated Platform for Sharing Models, Resources, Programmes, and Tools for Understanding and Responding to Social Unrest, Hate, Hostility and Polarisation, through Youth Work.

[://NYCI_Practice_Sharing_Padlet](#)

Addressing the Menace of Intimidation – A Toolkit

A comprehensive, educational toolkit and accompanying training launched by The Junction, which raises awareness and empowers individuals to play an active role in countering intimidatory attitudes, beliefs and hate crime, for more information visit:

<https://www.community-relations.org.uk/news-centre/addressing-menace-intimidation-toolkit>

Good Relations Resource Pack

This 300page Education Authority Youth Service developed TBUC good relations resource pack acknowledges the work of David Gardiner "Explore, Dream, Discover" a resource to support the delivery of Summer Camps 2016–2017. It is full of ideas and practical materials for planning, delivering, evaluating and celebrating good relations work with young people. Again, much of the material will be appropriate for PEACEPLUS Youth Programme projects taking place in the border counties of Ireland.

<https://www.youthonline.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/GRRP-design-web-low-quality.pdf>

Research

- [Inequalities experienced by Belfast's black, Asian, Minority Ethnic and Traveller people Residing in Belfast](#) (2022), commissioned Belfast City Council, Belfast Trust and the Public Health Agency (PHA).
- [Looking out for, looking after, looking to each other: perspectives from and about Black young people in Balbriggan, County Dublin](#) (2023), commissioned by NYCI and undertaken by the Centre for Youth Research and Development Department of Applied Social Studies at Maynooth University.
- [LGBTQ Visions of Peace in a Society Emerging from Conflict](#)

This project sought to redress the marginalisation of LGBTQ people in conflict transformation processes by providing them discursive and artistic fora to express their stories of political conflict, conflict transformation, and visions of peace.

**SAVE
THE DATE**



**‘All About PEACEPLUS
Youth Programme’
Showcase Invitation**

Monday 3 November 2025

10.00am-1.00pm

(followed by networking lunch)

Venue: Belfast area

To register click → [HERE](#)

AMPLIFY Project Co-ordinator, [REDACTED] will share valuable learning and insights from his Masters’ dissertation “*on the association between participating on the project and increased levels of hope, resilience, and aspirations*”. This engaging and interactive showcase will touch on key theoretical frameworks including **Goal Setting, Hope, Ecological Systems and Differential Sensitivity Theory** providing a well-rounded perspective on youth work. Mark’s reflections and learning are likely to **resonate strongly with other PEACEPLUS Youth Programme stakeholders and youth work providers across the region**, offering inspiration and practical takeaways for future programme development.



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