



# Why Peace Processes Fail: Negotiating Insecurity After Civil War

By *Jasmine-Kim Westendorf*

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Jasmine-Kim Westendorf

Why do so many post-civil war societies continue to be characterized by widespread violence and political instability? Or, more succinctly, why do peace processes so often fail to consolidate peace? Addressing this question, Jasmine-Kim Westendorf explores how the international community engages in resolving civil wars?and clarifies why, despite the best of intentions and the investment of significant resources, external actors fail in their reconstruction efforts and even contribute to perpetuating the very conditions of insecurity and conflict that they are trying to alleviate.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

A stimulating read.... Ambitious in scope and with much original insight, this work is an important contribution to an important debate. (Carrie Manning, Georgia State University)

Westendorf offers an important framework for analyzing prospects for state building by the international community. (Desha Girod, Georgetown University)

An outstandingly comprehensive, clear-eyed, and practically very useful analysis.... [It] should be required reading for anyone in the peacebuilding business.... This is a fine example of how academically well-grounded research can at the same time have a real policy impact.

(Gareth Evans, Australian National University)

A well-researched, strongly argued, and stimulating new approach to studying peace in the aftermath of war.

(Julia Strasheim *Democratization*)

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(Gareth Evans)

#### About the Author

Jasmine-Kim Westendorf is lecturer in international relations at La Trobe University.

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