

ISSN 2942-8904

VOLUME 1  
SUMMER 2024

**ONLINE ACADEMIC JOURNAL**

# **PUBLIC POLICY AND INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE IN THE MIDDLE OF CONFLICT**

**JENA CENTER FOR RECONCILIATION STUDIES (JCRS), FRIEDRICH-  
SCHILLER UNIVERSITY OF JENA**

**EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, V.  
N. KARAZIN KHARKIV NATIONAL UNIVERSITY**



**FRIEDRICH-SCHILLER-  
UNIVERSITÄT  
JENA**

**ACADEMIC PRESS - ISBN 978-3-00-077994-7**

Image: Pixabay

Journal of Public Policy and Institutional Change in the Middle of Conflict, Volume 1, Summer 2024

The online version of the journal is available at:

<https://www.jcrs.uni-jena.de/ppic>

<https://karazin.ua/en/fakulteti-ta-instituti/navchalno-naukovyi-institut-laquo-institut-derzhavnoho-upra/>

Published by: Public Policy and Institutional Change in the Middle of Conflict Project - The Jena Center for Reconciliation Studies (Friedrich-Schiller University of Jena) & Education and Scientific Institute of Public Administration, V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University.

ISSN 2942-8904 - The German National Library

ISBN 978-3-00-077994-7

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# INTRODUCTORY LETTER

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We are pleased to present the inaugural issue of \*Public Policy and Institutional Change in the Middle of Conflict\*, an academic journal dedicated to advancing scholarly discourse and empirical research in the domains of Conflict Transformation and Reconciliation within the post and middle-of-conflict societies. Established in the Winter of 2024, this journal is a product of the collaborative partnership between Friedrich Schiller University of Jena and V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University, formalized under a Memorandum of Understanding between these distinguished institutions.

The primary objective of this journal is to cultivate a rigorous intellectual framework for examining the multifaceted impacts of the Russian-Ukrainian war. By uniting preeminent scholars and practitioners from the fields of public policy, political science, sociology, and philosophy, the journal seeks to address the critical challenges and strategic responses pertinent to this unprecedented crisis. The Russian invasion of Ukraine has precipitated one of the most severe geopolitical and humanitarian crises in Europe since the Second World War, with profound ramifications for global security, migration, and human rights.

The journal's editorial leadership is anchored by an Editor-in-Chief and the first Chair of the Academic Board, who bring extensive practical and theoretical expertise to this endeavor. Their combined knowledge, drawn from years of scholarly research and field experience, provides invaluable guidance in shaping the journal's vision and ensuring its relevance to both academic and policy-oriented audiences.

In light of these exigent circumstances, this journal endeavors to move beyond the immediate narratives of conflict, aiming instead to foster a deeper understanding of the structural and institutional determinants of war. The articles in this issue contribute to the development of robust public policy frameworks that can enhance Ukraine's resilience and facilitate post-conflict stabilization. Moreover, this publication seeks to disseminate essential knowledge on interventions and initiatives that not only mitigate the human toll of the conflict but also offer pathways for sustainable peace and reconstruction.

The academic and editorial board is committed to providing a scholarly platform that encourages critical dialogue and the exchange of ideas, even amidst the complexities of ongoing conflict. We acknowledge the significant challenges that lie ahead but remain resolute in our mission to highlight innovative projects, strategies, and policies that contribute to the protection of human life, the support of displaced populations, and the long-term stabilization of the region.

Sincerely,

The Academic and Editorial Board