



Roundtable on: **Community-led responses to violence in Brazil - lessons for Urban Peacebuilding**

at 1.30 - 4.30pm on 23 June 2022, swisspeace, khaus, Kasernenhof 8, 4058 Basel (presence only)

with the participation of

Luiz Eduardo Lopes, Associate member of the Maranhense Society for Human Rights (SMDH), Professor at UFMA and EJA PRISIONAL (seduc - MA).

Prof. Siobhan Wills, Director of the Transitional Justice Institute and former Course Director of the LL.Ms in Human Rights and Transitional Justice and Gender, Conflict and Human Rights at Ulster University (UK). She coordinates a study on the impact of police violence on communities in Brazil.

Building on the [KOFF Master Class on Urban Peacebuilding](#), terre des hommes schweiz and KOFF are honored to invite you to a roundtable that will discuss the impact of urban police violence on community life in Brazil, as well as the ways in which civil society and researchers from the peripheries respond to it.

In line with the UN Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace, and Security, terre des hommes schweiz works together with five civil society organizations in the Northeast of Brazil, to break one-sided stereotypes of youth as security risks. Recognizing the potential of youth as agents for peace, initiatives empowering Black youth from marginalized urban regions as political agent is a best practice illustrating how youth participation approaches contribute to social inclusion and consequently to violence prevention. One outcome of this project is community-led observatories of violence.

Based on practical experiences and research, our guest speakers will talk about how people in Brazil are affected by urban police violence, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, how they are organizing themselves to work as observers of murders and violent deaths in their own communities. Thereby, the roundtable sheds light on how bottom-up documentation of "urban violence" can work and what we can learn for other contexts. The roundtable not only aims at creating a space for exchange about urban violence, but also to jointly explore the notion of urban peacebuilding as an emerging field.

Kindly [register](#) until 21 June 2022. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact andrea.grossenbacher@swisspeace.ch or chiara.lanfranchi@swisspeace.ch. We look forward to seeing you there.

Best wishes,

terre des hommes schweiz & KOFF – The Swiss Platform for Peacebuilding

Program

1.30 Welcoming remarks & introduction round:

“Setting the scene: Youth-led approaches to urban violence and the relevance of concepts of urban peacebuilding for advocacy in Switzerland”

2.00 Input by first guest speaker Prof. Siobhan Wills followed by Q&A

“Impact of urban police violence on community on the right to mental health in marginalized communities in Brazil”

3.00 *Break*

3.00 Input by second guest speaker Luiz Eduardo Lopes, followed by Q&A

“Community-led responses to urban violence in Northeast of Brazil”

3.30 Open discussions

4:30 End of event

Moderation

Andrea Zellhuber & Fabiana Kuriki, terre des hommes schweiz

Language

Portuguese and English (with simultaneous translation)

Guest speakers

Luiz Eduardo Lopes

Associate member of the Maranhense Society for Human Rights (SMDH). Professor at UFMA and EJA PRISIONAL (seduc - MA). With experience in research on urban violence, violent urban criminality, criminal factions, drug trafficking, prison system, education in prisons, and related topics. Coordinator of the research groups: Rede de Estudos Periféricos (REP) and Rede de Estudos Periféricos da Baixada Maranhense (REP da Baixada). Both groups are concerned with the investigation of themes related to the periphery of Maranhão, a NETWORK of groups formed mainly by researchers coming from the peripheries of Maranhão. Luiz is the coordinator of the Maranhão Security Observatory linked to the Network of Security Observatories.

Siobhan Wills

Director of the Transitional Justice Institute and former Course Director of the LL.Ms in Human Rights and Transitional Justice and Gender, Conflict and Human Rights. Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Authority, she is a member of the International Law Association Global Health Committee and of the Royal Irish Academy Standing Committee on International Affairs and of the Royal Irish Academy Social Sciences Committee. Her research has a focus on protection of civilians, peacekeeping, and use of force. In 2016-2017 and 2019-2020 Siobhán received grants from the Arts and Humanities Research Council to make documentary films, jointly with Prof McLaughlin (QUB), about the legacy impact of use of force by peacekeepers in Haiti and in Brazil.