

Goals and Objectives

Conflict between peoples occurs here in Minnesota and throughout the world on a daily basis. The workshop intends to look at ways communities throughout the world are resolving conflicts through problem-solving, reconciliation, and transparency in accountability strategies and methods. This workshop hopes to uncover ways diverse communities throughout the world have attempted to find truth, reconcile past suffering and war crimes both on a personal and societal level, and build systems of accountability and transparency to prevent future human rights violations.

The University of Minnesota hosts 17 International Humphrey Fellows, who bring a unique perspective from 14 different countries and will add immensely to broaden our perspectives and global understanding of diverse responses to accountability, conflict resolution, and reconciliation in the 21st century. In addition, the United States Institute of Peace is co-sponsoring this workshop and is making this event possible through its financial contribution.

The Working Group will be introduced on Thursday, February 3rd before the Public Forum on “Accountability and Reconciliation: Protecting Human Rights and Reaching a Lasting Peace.” Immediately following the Public Forum will be a reception to allow Working Group participants and other community members to meet each other in a more informal setting.

Friday, February 4th will provide an opportunity for you to participate more actively in a small Working Group setting. You will be able to share strategies, tools and innovations in the area of accountability, reconciliation, and problem solve to promote peace and human rights. We hope the Public Forum and Working Group sessions will provide an opportunity for International Fellows, university faculty and students, and community leaders to explore new ideas for creating tools of accountability, problem solving conflicts, and reconciling differences. This workshop will also give all participants time to share what works well and what does not in third party interventions for the promotion and protection of human rights. One goal of this session is to produce a report and a multi media tool to communicate our learning to other International Humphrey Fellows at host universities throughout the United States.