MISSION

The Pearson Institute for the Study and Resolution of Global Conflicts promotes discussion, understanding, and resolution of global conflicts through research, education and engagement with the global policy community. The Pearson Institute fills a critical gap by identifying data-driven strategies to reduce or mitigate global conflicts and by informing policy in ways that ultimately help create a world more at peace.

FACULTY AND LEADERSHIP

James Robinson
*Institute Director; The Reverend Dr. Richard L. Pearson Professor of Global Conflict Studies, Harris Public Policy; University Professor, University of Chicago*

Chris Blattman
*The Ramalee E. Pearson Professor of Global Conflict Studies, Harris Public Policy*

Oeindrila Dube
*The Philip K. Pearson Professor of Global Conflict Studies, Harris Public Policy*

Roger Myerson
*The David L. Pearson Distinguished Service Professor of Global Conflict Studies, Harris Public Policy, the Griffin Department of Economics, and the College*

The Pearson Institute maintains a network of faculty affiliates across the University of Chicago and around the world to promote an interdisciplinary, global approach to the study of conflict.

RESEARCH

Moving beyond correlation-based conclusions to reveal causal relationships that provide the foundation for effective policy, our faculty’s research employs innovative and data-driven methodologies from economics, political science, and psychology, among other fields. Geographically diverse, our researchers cover the globe, from Latin America to the Middle East, to sub-Saharan Africa and Asia.

The Pearson Institute annually awards grants through its Research and Innovation Fund to faculty and PhD students across the University of Chicago whose work aims to understand and reduce global conflict and ultimately impact public policy.

EDUCATION

The Pearson Institute offers academic programming each year through the University of Chicago
Harris School of Public Policy. Courses, offered at the undergraduate, master’s, and doctoral levels, are topically and geographically diverse, and introduce students to new tools and methodologies while promoting evidence-based policy.

The Pearson Institute offers certificates in Global Conflict Studies and International Development designed to focus on comparative development, political economy, and applied methodology, and to help prepare students for global careers across sectors.

Each year, through the Fellows and Scholars program, The Pearson Institute sponsors a select group of distinguished master’s and doctoral students to engage in the study of global conflicts. By providing funding and mentorship to these students, The Pearson Institute helps develop the next generation of leaders and scholars.

ENGAGEMENT

The Pearson Global Forum
The Pearson Global Forum annually convenes the world’s foremost thinkers and influencers for the purpose of informing and discussing new strategies to prevent, resolve, and recover from conflict. By promoting dialogue between diverse academics, policymakers, global leaders, and other stakeholders, the Forum bridges the critical gap between research and policy.

The Reverend Dr. Richard L. Pearson Lecture
Each year, the Institute hosts an individual who has worked at the highest levels of conflict resolution. Past speakers include Sergio Jaramillo, former Colombian High Commissioner for Peace and Jonathan Powell, Chief British Negotiator in the Northern Ireland peace process.

Recurring Event Series
The Pearson Institute holds a monthly public event series featuring guests who work on issues related to conflict and peace. In addition to visiting scholars from around the world, speakers include representatives from government agencies, humanitarian and multilateral organizations, and more.

INTERNATIONAL REACH

Institute faculty partner to conduct research with organizations around the world, including the American University of Afghanistan, Innovations for Poverty Action, the Inter-American Development Bank, the International Rescue Committee, the Jameel Abdul Latif Poverty Action Lab, Universidad de los Andes, the World Bank, and more.

The Pearson Institute offers global experiential opportunities for students through its International Conflict Seminar program. Harnessing the Institute’s international network, students engage with government officials, NGOs, civil society leaders, and locals to gain a holistic perspective on conflicts around the world.