**Understanding the involvement of faith groups in conflict prevention activity**

**Information for participants**

We are researching the role that faith groups and leaders play in preventing violent conflict. We seek to establish the extent to which local civil society groups are able to anticipate violence and respond appropriately and in particular we aim to establish the role that faith groups were able to play in preventing conflict. We are interested in the different resources that faith groups are able to utilise and the ways in which a faith-based approach to preventing conflict might differ from the approaches of non-faith actors.

The research is being conducted by two researchers at the Centre for Peace and Reconciliation Studies at Coventry University in the UK. The researchers are Professor Alpaslan Ozerdem and Laura Payne. They are working with two partner researcher from the Anglican faith community, who in this case are:

1. Madeleine Walters
2. Andy Bowerman

**Invitation to participate**

We would like to invite you to participate in our research. This would involve a short interview where we would ask you to comment on issues around the conflict in your context. It would include us asking questions about the nature of the conflict, the role of your organisation in preventing violence and any personal involvement that you have had with this peacebuilding work.

The interview would take no longer than one hour and will not be recorded. We would not identify you in the outcomes of the research and will respect your confidentiality and anonymity at all times. The law called the Data Protection Act (1998) tells us how to keep your information secure and we have suitable procedures in place to protect your confidentiality and your data.

**Your participation is voluntary and you are free to change your mind and withdraw from the study at any time.**

Unfortunately there is no payment for taking part in this piece of research. The study will help us understand better the contributions that faith leaders and religious groups can make to efforts to prevent conflict. It will provide material to support the case for future involvement of faith groups in conflict prevention initiatives in the future.

If you have any questions or concerns about the study then you should speak to the researchers, who will do their best to answer your questions. They can also be contacted at:

* Laura Payne: laura.payne@coventry.ac.uk
* Alpaslan Özerdem: alpaslan.ozerdem@coventry.ac.uk

Alternatively, you could also contact Professor Hazel Barrett, Associate Dean for Applied Research within the university’s Faculty of Business, Environment and Society by emailing hazel.barrett@coventry.ac.uk.