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S. Hellmüller, M. Santschi (Eds.)

Is Local Beautiful?

Peacebuilding between International Interventions and Locally Led Initiatives

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- ▶ Provides unique insights on how to balance local ownership and international interventions
- ▶ Gives voice to a multitude of authors with different perspectives (local/international; researchers/practitioners; etc.)
- ▶ A helpful compilation of lessons learnt and best practices on how to tackle the challenging demand of implementing local ownership

Based on the swisspeace annual conference 2012, the proposed publication examines the delicate balance between external interventions and locally-led initiatives. It addresses the question of what "local" means in the peacebuilding and development context; which actors on the ground actually represent the local level and how external actors choose their partners from amongst them. Moreover, it examines how local ownership - emerging as key criteria for any external intervention - is constituted: does this concept only imply local participation or is local control from the outset a must? Finally, it assesses the potential of locally-led initiatives and local conflict resolution mechanisms and their interaction with external interventions. Several authors will provide insights on these questions and nuance our thinking about both local ownership and external interventions. As such, the publication aims to encourage critical reflections on this topical debate in peacebuilding and development.



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