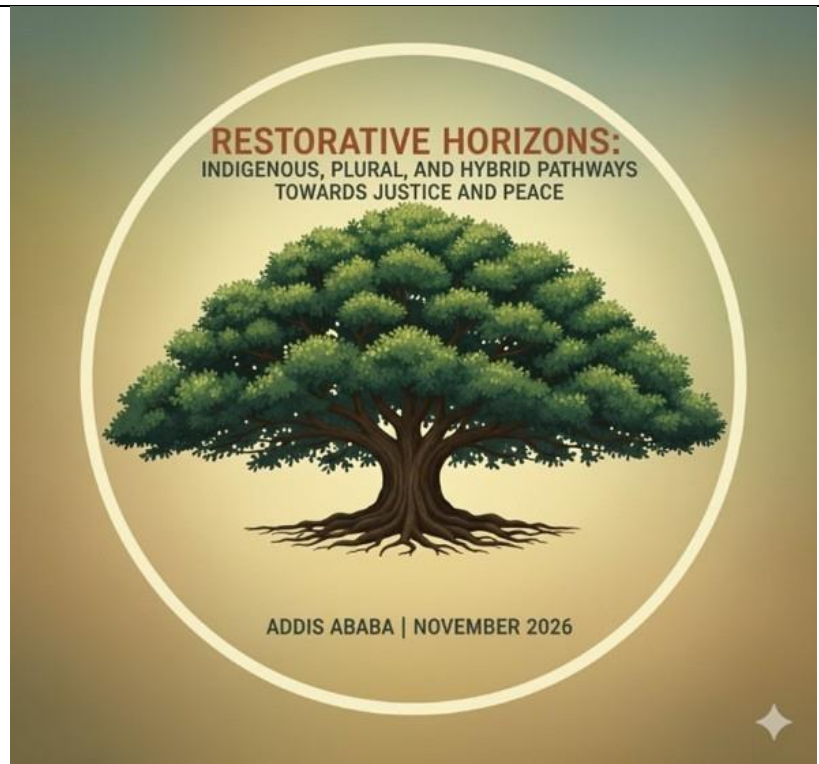


Call for Workshop Ideas

Restorative Horizons: Indigenous, Plural, and Hybrid Pathways towards Justice and Peace



Balzan Workshop, Addis Ababa, 25–27 November 2026

(27 November will include field visits: meetings with Indigenous leaders, customary courts, the African Union Headquarters, and local historical sites.)

Organized by

Centre for Peace and Security Studies, Addis Ababa University;
Centre for Restorative Justice, Australian National University;
European Forum for Restorative Justice

Thanks to our principal funder, the Balzan Foundation.

Workshop Overview

Restorative Horizons will explore the dynamic intersections between restorative justice and the many justice traditions that coexist within and beyond formal state systems. We invite contributions that examine Indigenous, customary, spiritual, and community-based approaches to justice, as well as hybrid and plural systems that reflect the lived realities of diverse communities across the Global North and South.

Rather than positioning these systems as separate or competing, the workshop seeks to understand how restorative justice operates *across* traditions and how it can serve as a bridge linking them. We aim to highlight how these plural approaches contribute to sustainable peace, the healing of historical and contemporary harms, and the flourishing of communities facing complex challenges. A particular focus will be given to environmental and ecological justice, recognizing that many Indigenous and local justice systems view social harmony and environmental wellbeing as inseparable.

The workshop will move beyond academic discussion toward *practical applications*, engaging scholars, practitioners, and community leaders to explore how plural justice traditions can respond to today's social, political, environmental, and economic challenges while honoring the living and often unwritten wisdom that guides and sustains communities.

The workshop also seeks to bring together scholars from both the Global North and the Global South to engage in dialogue about shared themes that emerge in discussions of justice within community contexts, such as unequal power dynamics, representation, and voice. Too often, these issues are explored in isolation within different scholarly and cultural traditions. By fostering cross-contextual exchange, the workshop aims to bridge these divides and deepen mutual understanding of how justice is imagined and practiced across diverse settings.

An edited volume of selected workshop papers will be published internationally.

Contributions, Ideas

We welcome a wide range of contributions, including:

- Workshop paper presentations with abstracts
- Poster presentation abstracts
- Skills-labs or practice-based demonstrations
- Community circles and dialogues (e.g., Gadaa or Oda dialogues)
- Creative or experiential formats that invite reflection and participation

If you have an idea that does not fit neatly into these categories, please submit it — we encourage innovation and diverse ways of knowing and sharing.

Register here: <https://restorativejustice.ipss-addis.org/>

Submit your Workshop Ideas here: <https://restorativejustice.ipss-addis.org/>

Submission and Registration

Ideas submission deadline: 30 April 2026

Notification of selected ideas: 30 May 2026

Registration deadline: 15 August 2026

Participant numbers are capped due to venue capacity. Registration may close earlier if capacity is reached. **No registration fee** for selected participants. However, those who are able are encouraged to make a **voluntary donation** (recommended: USD \$250) to support the Centre for Peace and Security Studies, Addis Ababa University, in covering workshop expenses.

Planning Team

Workshop Chair: Zelalem Tesfaye: Balzan Project Deputy Director, Addis Ababa University & ANU Visiting Fellow John Braithwaite: Director, Balzan Restorative Justice Project, ANU

Miranda Forsyth: ANU Centre for Restorative Justice

Emanuela Biffi: Program Coordinator, European Forum for Restorative Justice

Brunilda Pali: Chair, European Forum for Restorative Justice

Yan Zhang: Balzan Project Deputy Director, ANU

Daniel Mekonnen: Balzan Fellow, AAU and ANU Visiting Fellow

Mr. Yayew Genet: Balzan Fellow, Bahir Dar University, and ANU Visiting Fellow