

PROGRAM

# REFLECTING ON PEACE

EXPERIENCES OF ROTARY PEACE FELLOWS

#ReflectPeace

UPPSALA ROTARY PEACE CENTER

ANNUAL SEMINAR | 7 MAY 2016

lhre-salen, Hus 21 at Engelska Parken,  
Thunbergsvägen 3H, Uppsala



UPPSALA  
UNIVERSITET



# WELCOME

The Annual Seminar, organized by the Uppsala Rotary Peace Center at the Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University, features a full day of exciting events!

The Rotary Peace Fellows from Class XIII will present their research and share experiences of peace work from around the world.

Address your questions to [rotarypeace@pcr.uu.se](mailto:rotarypeace@pcr.uu.se)

Most welcome!

# VENUE

The venue for the 2016 Annual Seminar is **lhre-salen** located at Hus 21, Engelska Parken in Uppsala (Thunbergsvägen 3H). It is situated in a central location, close to the train station, the host institution (Department of Peace and Conflict Research), and most hotels. A map can be found near the back of this program.

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# SHORT PROGRAM

9.15 -10.00	Registration, coffee and welcome mingle
10.00 – 10.10	Welcome address
10.10 – 10.30	The Rotary Peace Fellowship Program
10.30 – 11.30	Keynote speaker: Martin Schibbye
11.30 – 12.30	Session 1: Can We Build Peace?
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch
14.00 – 15.00	Session 2: Stories from the People
15.10 – 16.10	Session 3: Reflections on Our Role in Peace
16.10 – 16.20	Concluding remarks

# ABOUT THE UPPSALA ROTARY PEACE CENTER

Since 2011 the Department of Peace and Conflict Research at Uppsala University hosts one of the six Rotary International Peace Centers. This means that students from all over the world can apply for Rotary scholarships to pursue the Master Program in Peace and Conflict Studies at Uppsala University.

The Uppsala Rotary Peace Center selects and educates Rotary Peace Fellows to have a significant, positive impact on peace and conflict resolution during their future careers. The ideal candidate holds a Bachelor's degree in peace and conflict studies, international relations, political science or a related field. Students should demonstrate strong academic achievement and strong commitment to the field of peace and conflict resolution.

## TWEET WITH US!

We will have a live twitter running feed throughout the day. Join in with

**#ReflectPeace @UURotaryPeace**

# PROGRAM IN DETAIL

**9.15 – 10.00**

**Outside Ihre-salen**

Registration, coffee and welcome mingle

**10.00 – 10.10**

**Ihre-salen**

Welcome address from the Uppsala Rotary Peace Center

*Erika Forsberg*

**10.10 – 10.30**

**Ihre-salen**

The Rotary Peace Fellowship Program

*Kate Lonergan & Ahmad Mohibbi*

**10.30 – 11.30**

**Ihre-salen**

Keynote Speaker, Martin Schibbye

Freedom of speech in the shadow of the war against terror

*Q&A Moderated by Prof. Peter Wallensteen*

**11.30 – 12.30**

**Ihre-salen**

**Session 1: Can We Build Peace?**

**Exploring Assumptions about Peacebuilding Efforts During and After Conflict**

*Nicole Ella, Ahmad Mohibbi, Kate Lonergan*

Peacebuilding has become a dominant approach to end ongoing conflicts, rebuild post-conflict societies and prevent conflict from recurring. This approach entails many different activities, including state building activities like security sector reform and promoting rule of law, negotiations between conflicting parties, and reconciliation. However, the effects of these programs are often based on assumptions and conventional wisdom rather than empirical evidence. In this session we will dig deeper into some of these assumptions, and explore the research implications of three different approaches to peacebuilding. The session will feature presentations on the impact of reconciliation programming on atrocity prevention, the effects of different negotiation strategies on humanitarian outcomes during active conflict, and the effects of state building on legitimacy in post-conflict societies.

*Q&A moderated by Lindsey Doyle*

**12:30 – 14.00**

**Lunch Break**

**Matikum**

**14.00 – 15.00**

**lhre-salen**

**Session 2: Stories from the People: A Focus on Local Perspectives**

*Krystal Renschler, Ahmed Abdi Wais, Sireh Jabang*

Post-conflict peacebuilding is an ambitious and broad undertaking that requires a synergy of efforts among many actors, such as those in the security sector, humanitarian response, development and governance assistance, among others. As part of a growing emphasis on peacebuilding in recent decades, an impressive network of global agencies and professional practitioners has been developed to reduce conflict in the world. These advancements are significant and worth celebrating. At the same time, much of this work focuses on top-down approaches and local voices often remain unheard. In this session you will hear from fellows who have engaged with a variety of bottom-up peacebuilding initiatives as part of their Applied Field Experience (AFE). We will share our reflections on experience with peace education programs on gender-based violence in Rwanda, women's political participation in Egypt, South Sudan and Nigeria, and transitional justice approaches that employ memory as a tool for healing in Cambodia.

*Q&A moderated by Marcus Tan de Bibiana*

**15.10 – 16.10**

**lhre-salen**

**Session 3: Reflections on Our Role in Peace**

*Meena Pillai, Takuya Koimaru, Claire Maizonnier*

The Rotary Peace Fellowship allows for a period of reflection and learning, meeting people from all areas of the field, and enhancing our understanding of peace and conflict through dedicated study. In this session, Fellows describe how the Fellowship has allowed them the space to reflect on their past experiences, on why and how they came to this area of work and on how they will move forward. As a lawyer, Meena chose humanitarian work over working in the corporate sector, or in government, and the fellowship has helped her to understand that choice. Takuya reflects on his previous experiences in the Japanese Ground Self Defense Force (JGSDF), as a rural development officer in Cameroon and his work as a Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) Officer in Ivory Coast. Claire reflects on the broad scope of areas that fellows work in before and after the program and how this interdisciplinary approach is fundamental to the success of Rotary's vision, now and into the future. She is excited that the field of peace and conflict allows for flexibility throughout her career.

*Q&A moderated by James Petermeier*

**16.10 – 16.20**

**lhre-salen**

Concluding Remarks

*Magnus Öberg*

# MEET OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKER



**Martin Schibbye** is a Swedish journalist, with significant experience of working in societies torn by armed conflict and repressive regimes. After an assignment in the conflict-ridden Ogaden region of Ethiopia he was sentenced to eleven years in prison for terrorist crimes on December 27, 2011, together with his friend and colleagues, the photographer Johan Persson. They were later pardoned and released on 10 September 2012. In 2013 they published the book "438 days" about the experience.

*The Q&A session following the keynote address will be moderated by Professor Peter Wallensteen.*



**Peter Wallensteen** is a Senior Professor in the Department of Peace and Conflict Research at Uppsala University, where he directed the Uppsala Conflict Data Program until 2015, as well as the Richard G. Starmann Sr. Research Professor of Peace Studies at the Kroc Institute of International Peace Studies at the University of Notre Dame. Wallensteen's research interests include, among a broad range of topics, targeted sanctions, mediation, the durability of peace agreements, and the impact of preventive measures on the dynamics of disputes and conflicts.

# MEET THE PEACE FELLOWS | CLASS XIII

Rotary Peace Fellows are leaders promoting national and international cooperation, peace, and the successful resolution of conflict throughout their lives, in their careers, and through service activities. Fellows earn a master's degree in international relations, sustainable development, peace studies, conflict resolution, or a professional development certificate in peace and conflict studies.

Fellows selected to study at the Uppsala Rotary Peace Center will enroll in the two-year Master Program in Peace and Conflict Studies. The program enables students to critically examine, assess and analyze the origin, development and resolution of armed conflicts on a scientific basis. It provides the students with a broad competence to analyze conflicts and to understand processes of war termination and peace building at local, national, regional and global levels.

At the Uppsala Rotary Peace Center, Rotary Peace Fellows are supported by the fellowship for the 2-year duration of the program. The Rotary Foundation supports about ten Fellows per year. Thus, twenty peace Fellows are currently enrolled in the Master Program (ten in the first year and ten in the second year). The Annual Seminar is partly organized to celebrate that the cohort in the second year of the program is about to graduate. The nine Fellows are presented with short bios below.



**Nicole Ella** is an Indigenous Australian woman from the Yuin and Eora nations. She is an admitted lawyer having completed a Bachelor of Law and a Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice at the Australian National University. She has worked for a number of years with NGOs focused on women's empowerment, domestic crises service and Indigenous affairs. After graduating from her Bachelors degree she was invited to participate in the graduate program of the Australia Agency for International Development (AusAID) where she specialised in development and humanitarian programing for the Middle East and North Africa region, including first response to the Libya, Syria and Yemen crises. Later she was employed with the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade where she managed Australia's aid programmes to the occupied Palestinian Territories. During her Applied Field Experience (AFE) she worked with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA) in Geneva.



**Sireh Jabang** is a Gambian national and believes in a bottom-up approach to development. She holds a bachelor's degree in development studies and sociology from the University of the Gambia. Sireh worked with the Gambian Police. Her policing career included working with community members to solve and prevent crimes, a proactive approach to policing. She also served as the deputy coordinator for The Gambia Police Peace Support Office, the unit responsible for recruiting personnel for United Nations Peace Keeping Operations before joining the peace fellowship program. In 2010 she had the opportunity to serve with the United Nations Hybrid Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) at the mission's main headquarters, El-Fasher, Darfur. Her roles with UNAMID included facilitating in-mission trainings on gender issues, community policing and Human Rights. Her urge to seek more knowledge and skills in Peace and conflict stemmed from her experience in Darfur with an interest in post-conflict peace building initiatives having a special focus on women and children's issues. Being interested in working with the community, she decided to do her AFE with a local peace building organization in Rwanda called Shalom Educating for Peace (SEP). While with SEP, she worked with community members and school children on a project on the theme "gender-based violence in schools and communities". Her experience with SEP adds to her skills on nurturing non-violence means to peace building initiatives through education. Sireh is sponsored by District 2310 Oslo, Norway and Fajara Rotary Club, The Gambia.



**Takuya Koimaru** has worked for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration of ex-combatants (DDR) after the civil war in Ivory Coast. His academic background is in international relations and security studies. He has had several years' experiences in the Japanese Ground Self Defense Forces (JGSDF) and in some African countries such as Cameroon and Ivory Coast. Recently he spent 4 months in Egypt to research the economic involvement of Egyptian Armed Forces (EAF) as part of the AFE. The Rotary Club of Hunabashi in district 2790 in Japan, has sponsored him in this Masters Program.



**Kate Lonergan** is originally from Connecticut, USA. Prior to the Rotary Peace Fellowship, Kate worked on justice and development issues at the World Bank and conducted research on traditional justice mechanisms and post-conflict healing with the Justice and Reconciliation Project in Uganda. She has also been involved with restorative practices in the Washington, DC area, both as a facilitator and as a policy advocate. For her AFE, Kate conducted research on reconciliation and atrocity prevention in Sri Lanka. After the fellowship she hopes to continue working on action-oriented research on reconciliation and post-conflict peacebuilding. Kate is sponsored by Rotary District 7980 and the Rotary Club of Branford, Connecticut.



**Claire Maizonnier** is from Australia and is also French. She studied Peace and Conflict in her undergraduate degree at the University of Queensland in Brisbane. She has a wide range of experience in this field, having worked on topics such as the Responsibility to Protect, sexual and gender-based violence, youth homelessness and the nonviolent independence movement in West Papua. During her Applied Field Experience (AFE) she undertook an internship at the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) in New York, working on various topics, including peacebuilding and gender, and the establishment for a global network on digital technologies and sustainable urbanisation. Claire's Rotary sponsor club is Brisbane Planetarium in Brisbane, Australia.



**Ahmad Mohibbi** is interested in policy analysis and policy development, with particular focus on Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran and the broader Middle East region. He grew up in Afghanistan during the bloody Afghan civil war and was never able to complete his formal education, past 6th grade, until he moved to the U.S. in late 2007. Once settled, he received his B.A. in international affairs from Lewis & Clark College in 2012. Mohibbi has experience working for the U.S. Congress (including the House Foreign Affairs Committee), U.S. Department of Defense, the U.S. military, NATO, and the think tank community. In those capacities, he has conducted research on U.S. foreign policy issues as well as advised government and military officials on issues related to Afghanistan and the Middle East. Mohibbi's broader research interests focus on terrorism, dynamics of conflicts, civil wars, development issues, peacebuilding and state-building in post-conflict and conflict-affected societies.



**Meena Pillai** completed a Bachelor of Arts/Laws and a graduate certificate in Project Management in Australia. She has worked as a lawyer as well as for Amnesty International with refugees and asylum seekers and has experience living in Sri Lanka during the conflict. Meena has a particular concern for minorities and people in migration. This concern has developed from engaging with these groups during her previous work and more recently after completing her AFE interacting with minority communities in Kosovo, namely the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians, who experienced the war and continue to be affected by it. Through her education at Uppsala and from the Rotary Peace Fellowship, Meena has gained a commitment to academic learning. She hopes to combine previous practical professional experience and academic knowledge to provide useful and explorative research in the field of peace and conflict studies.



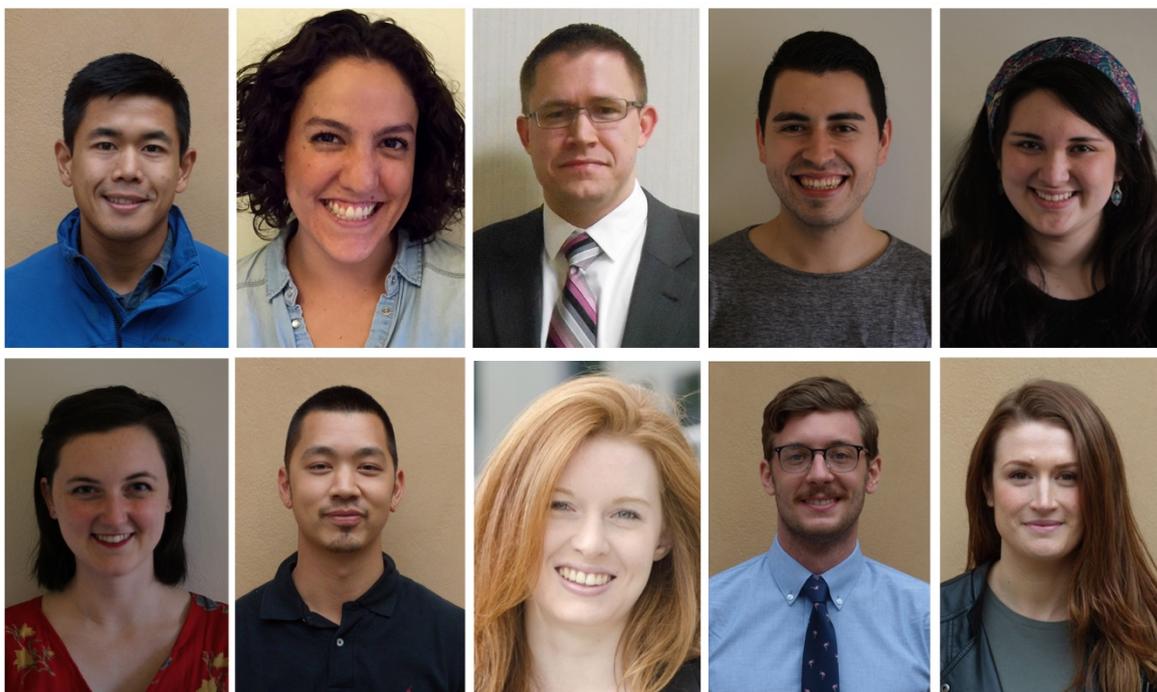
**Krystal Renschler** is a certified mediator and conflict resolution practitioner. Prior to the Peace Fellowship, she worked on reconciliation and community peace processes in her home country of Canada, with a particular focus on Aboriginal justice. Krystal's early work experience includes four years as an intelligence officer in the Canadian Armed Forces where she worked on conflict analysis and foreign policy. Originally trained as an engineer, she has also worked in development capacities, designing water filtration systems and drilling programs in Latin America and West Africa. Krystal currently serves on the Mediators Beyond Borders project team in Sierra Leone where she helps train local leaders in mediation, trauma support and conflict transformation skills. For her AFE, Krystal conducted independent research in Cambodia on post-genocide memorialization efforts and their impact on individual healing. As part of the master's program she was able to intern with the Berghof Foundation in Berlin, where she worked on the design of innovative dialogue and mediation formats in for conflict transformation.



**Ahmed Abdi Wais** is from Somalia. He has a bachelor degree in development studies and business administration respectively. He has extensive experience on youth issues and being advocate for the youth issues. He worked with Action aid international as programme manager and during his employment he ran projects related to women and youth empowerment through rights-based approaches. He conducted his Applied Field Experience in Kenya where he was involved with a project focused on policy and legal responses of women's rights in Nigeria, Egypt and South Sudan. As part of this role he was working with policy analysis on women's rights and development.

## CLASS XIII

In 2017, the Peace Fellows of Class XIV—who are currently enrolled in the first year of the Master Program in Peace and Conflict Studies—will help host and participate in the Annual Seminar.



Peter Dien, Ana Paula Peñalva Torres, James Petermeier, Jose Alvarado, Julia Landers  
Christie Nicoson, Marcus Tan de Bibiana, Lindsey Doyle, Alden Jacobs, Luci Heyworth

# THE ORGANIZING TEAM

The Annual Seminar is organized by the Uppsala Rotary Peace Center in cooperation with the Peace Fellows and the Host Area Coordinator, Magnus Elfwendahl. Short bios of the Peace Fellows are found above and below follow brief introductions of the Peace Center staff and the Host Area Coordinator. Please direct any questions about the Uppsala Rotary Peace Center and/or the Annual Seminar to [rotarypeace@pcr.uu.se](mailto:rotarypeace@pcr.uu.se)



**Erika Forsberg** is Director of the Uppsala Rotary Peace Center. She is a researcher and lecturer at the Department of Peace and Conflict Research at Uppsala University (PhD 2009) and affiliated with the Uppsala Conflict Data Program (UCDP). Her principal research interests include contagion of civil war, ethnic conflict, and gender in equality and armed conflict. Forsberg has mainly explored these research questions by employing statistical analysis of global data. In addition, she has experience from field work in Northeast India. Forsberg teaches courses at the undergraduate, Masters and postgraduate level at the Department of Peace and Conflict Research.



**Ingalill Blad Ögren** is Coordinator of the Uppsala Rotary Peace Center. She has been at the Department of Peace and Conflict Research at Uppsala University since 2013 and is currently Program Administrator for the Master Program in Peace and Conflict Studies. Previously, she was engaged in the Master Program in Sustainable Development at the Department of Earth Sciences as well as the Center for Natural Disaster Science at Uppsala University. Ingalill has four years of university studies in Earth Sciences. Her interests lie mainly in the sustainable living and development. She has 10 years of international experience, mostly in the computer industry. Ingalill also has extensive experience in the sector of PR & Communications and speaks English, French, Italian and some Dutch.



**Magnus Elfwendahl** serves as the Host Area Coordinator of the Uppsala Rotary Peace Center and is a member of the Uppsala Carolina Rotary Club. He has a PhD and is a City Heritage Advisor, and joined Rotary in 2001. He is the former president of Uppsala Carolina RC 2012-13 and has served as assistant governor in District 2350 since 2013. His involvement with the Rotary Peace Center at Uppsala University started in 2013 as Host Counselor. He has served as the Host Area Coordinator at the Center in Uppsala since July 2015.

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

**The Rotary Peace Center of Uppsala University would like to thank all Rotarians for their valuable contributions and support to the Rotary Peace Fellowship Program at Uppsala University.**

A special mention and sincere thank you to the following Rotarians who have provided generous endowments for individual fellows:

Sireh Jabang	Marilyn and William P. Tennity Endowed Rotary Peace Fellowship
Takuya Koimaru	Kenzo Tsuda Endowed Rotary Peace Fellowship
Ahmad Mohibbi	Central Asia Endowed Rotary Peace Fellowship
Krystal Renschler	Monroe Albin and Nancy Thompson Jubitz Rotary Peace Fellowship
Ahmed Wais	Central Asia Endowed Rotary Peace Fellowship
Lindsey Doyle	Hartley B. and Ruth B. Barker Endowed Rotary Peace Fellowship

# PRACTICAL INFORMATION

## Airport transportation

Uppsala is located within a short distance from Stockholm-Arlanda International Airport and there are several transportation options:

Options	Estimated cost?	Estimated duration?	From where?
Bus 801	SEK 125	45 minutes	Bus stop outside terminal building
Train	SEK 145	18 minutes	SkyCity (between terminal 4 and 5)
Taxi	SEK 522	25 minutes	Outside terminal building

\* Visit the UL website for more information: <http://www.ul.se/en/Travel/To-Arlanda/>

## Accommodation

For those of you who require accommodation, the organizing committee recommends the Radisson Blu Hotel. Address: Stationsgatan 4, 753 40 Uppsala. Phone: +46 (0)18-474 79 00. **Other hotels in the city center:** Park Inn by Radisson Uppsala (Storgatan 30); Clarion Hotel Gillet (Dragarbrunnsgatan 23); Hotel Villa Anna (Odinslund 3); Best Western Hotel Svava (Bangårdsgatan 24).

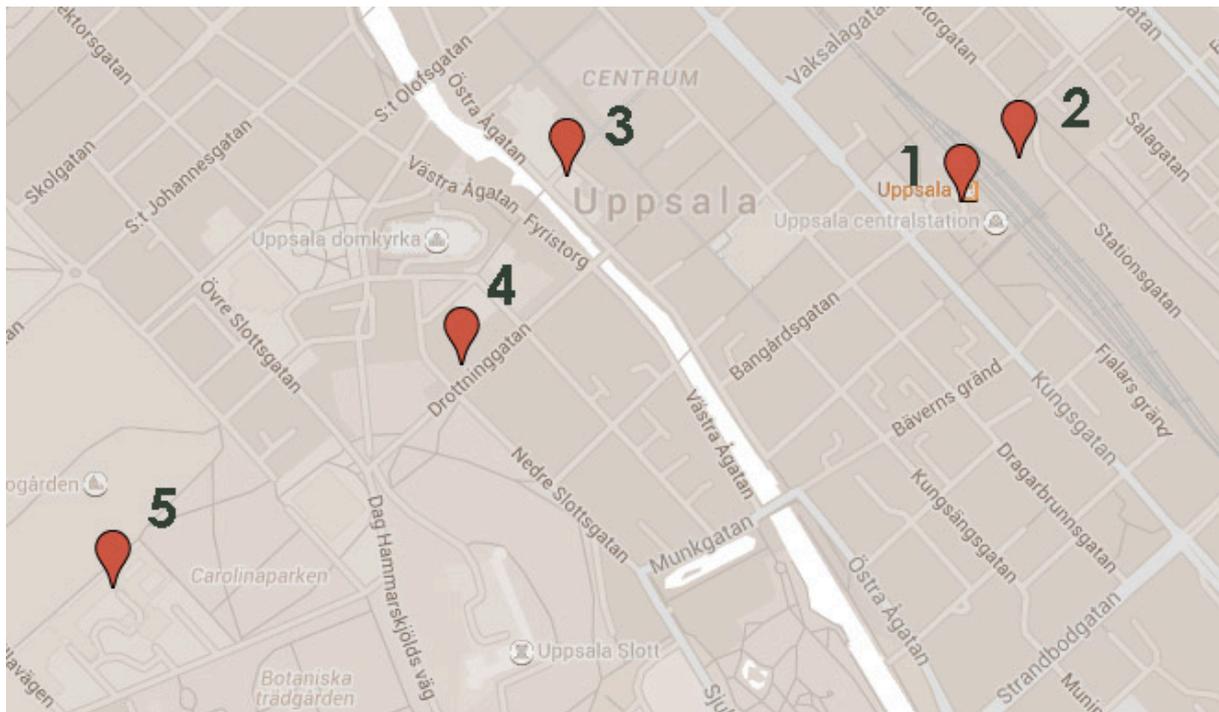
*Please note that the center is not able to cover your costs for travel and accommodation.*

In conjunction with the Annual Seminar, the Host Area Coordinator of the Uppsala Rotary Peace Center, Magnus Elfwendahl ([elfwendahl@gmail.com](mailto:elfwendahl@gmail.com)) is arranging a dinner at Stockholm's Nation. Invitation for this event is sent separately.

# MAP OF UPPSALA

The following link takes you to a Google map, where the location of seminar venue, hotel, Department of Peace and Conflict Research, etc. are indicated.

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=z8zY4RxHaTdE.kzycWMWBhL-Q>



- 1 Uppsala Central Station
- 2 Radisson Blu Hotel | Stationsgatan 4
- 3 The Department of Peace and Conflict Research | Gamla Torget 3
- 4 Stockholm Nation (Dinner Venue) | Drottninggatan 11
- 5 Ihre-salen, Hus 21, Engelska Parken | Thunbergsvägen 3H

# THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!