



## SECURITY SECTOR REFORM

# Think TANK

## UNIVERSITY OF LIBERIA

KOFI ANNAN INSTITUTE FOR CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION  
GRADUATE PROGRAM IN PEACE, DEVELOPMENT AND POLICY STUDIES

February 7, 2018

### Subject: Invitation for Conference on Security Sector Reform (SSR)

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Security Sector Reform Think Tank of the Kofi Annan Institute for Conflict Transformation of the University of Liberia is pleased to invite you(r) institution to **SHARE YOUR IDEAS AND EXPERIENCES** at the International Conference on SSR to take place on **21-22 Feb 2018 at the Auditorium, Capitol Hill Campus, University of Liberia, Monrovia.**

This conference is being organized by the University of Liberia with the support of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) with the objective to promote horizontal and democratic dialogue on security sector reform in Liberia and create best practices in the field of SSR.

The conference aims to democratize the production of knowledge encouraging all national and international security sector practitioners, including officers, policy-makers, traditional leaders, communities and scholars to write about their individual and institutions experiences on national ownership, policy and strategy-making processes, international law, democratic governance, institutional reform (police, corrections, army, and immigration etc.) criminal justice, and customary/informal institutions, gender, human security, and human rights.

### CATEGORIES OF PARTICIPATION

#### **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: 16 Feb 2018**

Interested individuals are encouraged to contribute on subjects that they have direct knowledge or professional experiences or research in the categories:

#### **SENIOR PRESENTERS: Presentation of papers by professionals and graduate students**

Submit by Feb 9, 2018 a brief abstract on your research with bibliographical references (150 words) with your registration form to [ssr.thinktank.liberia@gmail.com](mailto:ssr.thinktank.liberia@gmail.com). A complete article of 10-20 pages (8-10,000 words) will be requested on 16 Feb. You will be expected to present your paper at the group discussions during the Conference.

#### **JUNIOR PRESENTERS: Presentation of poster by undergraduate students and middle-level practitioners**

Submit by Feb 9, 2018 a brief abstract on your research with bibliographical references (150 words) with your registration form to [ssr.thinktank.liberia@gmail.com](mailto:ssr.thinktank.liberia@gmail.com). The University will develop and print the poster for you which will be exhibited at the Auditorium during the Conference. The student or practitioner is expected to present the poster and or research to a panel during the conference.

#### **PARTICIPANTS: Registration for the lectures is open to all interested participants**

Registration forms shall be submitted by 10 Feb. to [ssr.thinktank.liberia@gmail.com](mailto:ssr.thinktank.liberia@gmail.com) or delivered at the office of the Kofi Annan Institute for Conflict Transformation of the University of Liberia (Opening hours: 9h-17h, Cell#: 0777-047-800/0886-729-211/0886561920)

In order to capture the views, knowledge and experiences from your institution, we would highly appreciate if you could respectfully nominate no more than three persons to draft papers and represent your organization at each of the sessions of the conference. Attached you can find the registration form. More forms can be requested at [ssr.thinktank.liberia@gmail.com](mailto:ssr.thinktank.liberia@gmail.com) or at the office of the Kofi Annan Institute for Conflict Transformation of the University of Liberia (Opening hours: 9h-17h, Cell#: 0777-047-800/0886-729-211/0886-561920)

The best papers/poster presented will be selected to integrate in a book on SSR in Liberia to be developed by the University of Liberia with UNMIL support. The registration for the **conference is free of charge** and the accredited participants will receive a **certificate of participation**.

We would like to emphasize that the participation of your institution's representatives in the SSR International Conference is critical for the building and sharing of local knowledge in the field of peace and security in Liberia and beyond. You can pick up registration form from the Kofi Annan Institute for Conflict Transformation or make a request to the email account provided in this communication.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration and esteem.

Sincerely,

**T. Debey Sayndee**  
**Director**

# REGISTRATION FORM

Please send this form with your abstract attached to [ssr.thinktank.iberia@gmail.com](mailto:ssr.thinktank.iberia@gmail.com)

PERSONAL INFORMATION	
<b>NAME:</b>	
<b>PROFESSION:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT <input type="checkbox"/> GRADUATE STUDENT/ACADEMIC/MASTER/PHD <input type="checkbox"/> PROFESSIONALS ( ) PRACTITIONER
<b>INSTITUTION:</b>	
<b>CONTACT</b>	<b>E-MAIL:</b> _____ <b>PHONE/WHATZAP:</b> _____
CATEGORIES OF PARTICIPATION	
Interested individuals are encouraged to contribute on subjects that they have direct knowledge on or professional experiences or researches in the following categories:	
( )	<b>SENIOR PRESENTERS: Presentation of papers by professionals and graduate students</b> Submit by 16 Feb a brief abstract on your research with bibliographical references (150 words) with your registration form to <a href="mailto:ssr.thinktank.iberia@gmail.com">ssr.thinktank.iberia@gmail.com</a> . A complete article of 10-20 pages (8-10,000 words) will be requested on 16 Feb. You will be expected to present your paper at the group discussions during the Conference.
( )	<b>JUNIOR PRESENTERS: Presentation of poster by undergraduate students and middle-level practitioners</b> Submit by 16 Feb a brief abstract on your research with bibliographical references (150 words) with your registration form to <a href="mailto:ssr.thinktank.iberia@gmail.com">ssr.thinktank.iberia@gmail.com</a> . The University will develop and print the poster for you which will be exhibited at the Auditorium during the Conference. The student or practitioner is expected to present the poster and research to a panel during the conference.
( )	<b>PARTICIPANTS AND GENERAL AUDIENCE: Registration for the lectures is open to all interested participants</b> Registration forms shall be submitted by 16 Feb to <a href="mailto:ssr.thinktank.iberia@gmail.com">ssr.thinktank.iberia@gmail.com</a> or delivered at the office of the Kofi Annan Institute for Conflict Transformation of the University of Liberia (Opening hours: 9h-17h, Cell#: 0777-047-800/0886-729-211/0886-561920)
DETAILS OF THE RESEARCH TO BE PRESENTED (for senior and junior presenters only)	
<b>NAME OF THE PAPER/RESEARCH</b>	
<b>SSR FIELD:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 1. national ownership <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Security policy and strategy-making processes <input type="checkbox"/> 3. International criminal law <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Democratic governance and oversight <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Institutional reform (police, corrections, army, and immigration), criminal <input type="checkbox"/> 6. Customary/informal institutions <input type="checkbox"/> 7. Human security <input type="checkbox"/> 8. Human rights <input type="checkbox"/> 9. Gender <input type="checkbox"/> 10. other
<b>PAPER</b> <small>(for paper and posters presenters only)</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES, I AM SENDING THIS FORM WITH THE PAPER OF MY PRESENTATION ATTACHED TO <a href="mailto:ssr.thinktank.iberia@gmail.com">ssr.thinktank.iberia@gmail.com</a> or delivered at the office of the Kofi Annan Institute for Conflict Transformation of the University of Liberia (Opening hours: 9h-17h, Cell#: 0777-047-800/0886-729-211/0886-513-677)

**HOW TO WRITE AN ABSTRACT FOR A CONFERENCE  
INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS  
OF THE SECURITY SCETOR REFORM INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**Deadline for submission of the abstracts: Feb. 16, 2018**

Presentation of the papers by the senior and juniors participants at the Conference: Feb. 21-22, 2018

This conference is being organized by the Kofi Annan institute For Conflict Transformation (KAICT) of the University of Liberia with the objective to promote the production of knowledge in the field of Security Sector Reform (SSR), encouraging security sector practitioners, students and civil society to write about their individual and institutional experiences and / or share their researches.

**What is an Academic abstract?**

An abstract is a short document (1 page) that is intended to capture the interest of a potential reader of your paper. It is also intended to introduce the main ideas of your research. The abstract should be informative, giving a scope and emphasizing the main findings, expected results, or significance of the work described. Use short, direct sentences. It should be as concise as possible. It should be complete and self – explanatory.

**What should I write /research about?**

SSR is very broad concept. Your research can approach national ownership, policy and strategy – making processes, international law, democratic governance , institutional reform ((police, corrections, army, and immigration), criminal justice, customary / informal institutions, gender, human security, and human rights.

## **BODY OF THE ABSTRACT**

Please include the following in your abstract:

**Presentation title**

Short attention –catching titles are the most effective. However, it is also important, for a conference paper, to ensure that the title describes the subject you are writing about. You should limit the length of the title to no more than 12 words.

**Background / Justification / Problematic**

Why are you researching this topic? You need to make a clear statement of the topic and your research question, Demonstrating the reasons for your research (social problems etc).

**Aim / Objective**

The Abstract should then briefly describe the work to be discussed in your paper. In relation to the previous point, an important of engaging the interest of your audience in this particular context is by situating your presentation within larger disciplinary conversations & concerns of the Conference itself. You might do this by citing a key source or scholar, or situating your work in line of injury or major debate in your field of study. You might briefly explain how your presentation contributes to the larger discussion of this conference: Does it challenge, extend, or complicate existing work in your field? If possible, highlight the broader implications of your presentation.

**Methods**

You need to say how your research was /is /will be undertaken. For example, is it empirical or /and theoretical? Is it quantitative or qualitative? Are you going to make interviews?

**Results/ expected outcomes/ conclusions /contributions**

Here you have to provide a strong concluding sentence. What value are your findings and to whom will they be of use? Also give a concise summary of the findings or the expected contributions that your research will have to the SSR debate. The Abstract of your proposed paper needs to be done within the word limit of 250 words.

**Bibliography**

List the books / articles (names of the author, name of the book, place where it was published, editor and year) that you read/will approach for your research. For example: OMEJE, Kenneth. *War to peace transition. conflict intervention and peacebuilding in Liberia*. Maryland: University Press of America, 2009.

Once finalized, submit your abstract by Feb to [ssr.thinktank.liberia@gmail.com](mailto:ssr.thinktank.liberia@gmail.com) or deliver to the office of the KAICT – UL .

### **Need Help?**

**Ask one of the KAICT students / assistants for the Conference to help you.**

**Access Conference website: [www.facebook.com/Security-Sector-Reform-International-Conference-425564937813240/likes/](https://www.facebook.com/Security-Sector-Reform-International-Conference-425564937813240/likes/)**