

# HDCA Annual Conference on Culture, Peace and Capabilities

1-5 September 2025





## **HDCA 2025 Conference**

### **Culture, Peace and Capabilities**

**1 - 5 September 2025**



Venue:

Department of Peace Studies and International Development

University of Bradford, Richmond Road, Bradford BD7 1DP

West Yorkshire, United Kingdom

We look forward to welcoming you to Bradford which is the UK City of Culture 2025. We hope you have opportunities savour some of the delicacies of Bradford and also get a glimpse of our unique and historic city that is vibrant, colourful and welcoming. We have put together pre- and post-conference activities to give you an opportunity enjoy some of the special places and to know about the people who contribute to making this complex and dynamic city.

These are challenging times when wars are raging, our cultural institutions and foundations of human understanding are under unprecedented attack even as Artificial Intelligence technologies are eating away the very uniquely human processes of creativity and synthesis and enriching a small number of organisations and individuals while undermining the livelihoods of millions of workers all over the world. Within the UK, our higher education institutions have been facing unprecedented challenges and job cuts. In the midst of all this gloom, we hope that this conference provides an opportunity for us all to reflect on these profound economic and intellectual challenges of our time and explore possibilities to exchange ideas and be inspired by each other so we can leave the conference feeling a bit more positive and optimistic than when we arrived at the conference. On behalf of the entire organising committee here at the University of Bradford, it is my pleasure to welcome you to Bradford.

- *Professor PB Anand*  
*Conference Chair*

## HDCA Summer School 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> August 2025

	0800-0900	0900-1230	1330-1700	1800+
29 <sup>th</sup> August 2025 Friday		Summer School	Summer School	Summer school dinner
30 <sup>th</sup> August 2025 Saturday		Summer School	Summer School	Informal networking and dinner at own cost for those arriving early

## Pre-Conference Day Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August

### A. Forenoon

- **Walking Tour of Bradford's History**

An entirely outdoor tour exploring the rich history of Bradford. The tour ends in the city centre, where a variety of lunch options are available.

10:00–13:00 | Free | Easy to moderate; wheelchair accessible | Subject to weather | Groups of 15–20 | Booking essential

- **Visit to Saltaire (UNESCO World Heritage Site) and the Peace Museum**

Includes a coach or mini-coach journey and time to explore both outdoor and indoor parts of the site. Several lunch options are available in Saltaire, though they can be busy.

09:30–13:00 | £10 (travel only) – Lunch not included | Easy to moderate; wheelchair accessible | Maximum 40 participants

- **Visit to Haworth and the Brontë Parsonage Museum**

Discover the world of the Brontë sisters in the picturesque village of Haworth. Mostly outdoors, with a museum visit included. Lunch available at local restaurants.

Optional add-on for families: take the volunteer-run steam train from Haworth to Keighley.

09:30–13:00 | £10 (travel) + £13 (museum ticket) ≈ £23 total | Concessions may be available | Lunch not included | Easy to moderate; wheelchair accessible | Maximum 40 participants

### B. Afternoon activities

#### **Inter-Faith Peace Trail**

This walk begins at the University and visits a Mosque, Gurudwara, Hindu temple, and ends at Bradford Cathedral.

14:30–17:00 | Free | Easy to moderate walk | Subject to weather | Maximum 40 participants

## **Football and Peace**

A workshop with Prof Fiona Macaulay on using football as a means to promote harmony and achieving SDGs. A visit to the University of Bradford Football Stadium may also be possible.

14:30–17:00 | Free | Easy to moderate walk | Subject to weather | Maximum 40 participants

### **C. All day activity:**

- **Yorkshire Dales Walk**

A longer excursion with breathtaking views. Includes a walk of approximately 6–8 km and a stop in a Dales village for a light lunch or café visit.

09:30–18:30 | Approx. £40 (travel only) – Lunch not included | Easy to moderate walk | Maximum 20 participants

### **D. Evening activity 1900 to 2100**

Writing for publication workshop with Prof Melanie Walker

Norcroft Auditorium (Pizza provided)- there is a limit of 15 persons max.



## Pre-Conference and Conference Programme Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September

0900 to 1030

- **Thematic Group Co-ordinators meeting**

An opportunity for all the Thematic Group co-ordinators to meet with each other and also the HDCA team – event co-ordinated by Dr Caroline Hart.  
Norcroft Auditorium

- **Walking Tour of Bradford's City Centre.**

Free | Easy to moderate; wheelchair accessible | Subject to weather | Groups of 15–20 | Booking essential

- **Networking**

An opportunity to meet with other conference participants and exchange ideas. Volunteers will be available to guide you.

- **A visit to the JB Priestley Library, Commonweal Collection and Archives**

Must be pre-booked. Limited to group of 10 people due to the space constraint of archive room. Learn about the founding of the CND and the world-famous insignia; learn about the founding of the UK's first School of Peace Studies at Bradford.

1030-1100

- **Coffee/Tea break**

Atrium space and Lounge space

1100-1230 Plenary session

- **Launch of the Human Development Report 2025- Keynote**

A presentation on the flagship UNDP report focusing on the theme 'A matter of choice: People and possibilities in the age of AI' by **Dr Pedro Conceicao**, Director of the UNDP Human Development Report Office and Dr Heriberto Tapia.

Horton Barn Lecture Theatre

1330 -1400

- **Opening of the HDCA 2025 Conference**

With formal welcome from Professor PB Anand, Conference Chair and Opening remarks from Professor Shirley Congdon, Vice Chancellor and Rt Hon Ed Anderson, Lord Lieutenant of West Yorkshire, Ms Shahnaz Gulzar, Bradford City of Culture; Prof Enrica Chiappero-Martinetti, President of HDCA

Horton Barn Lecture Theatre

1400-1530

- **Parallel Sessions 1**

Up to 10 different panels each with up to 3 papers. Work on the specific allocation of papers to sessions is in progress. A detailed allocation will be available by the end of July 2025.

1530-1600

- **Coffee/Tea break**

Atrium space and Lounge space

1600-1800

- **Plenary: Mahbub Ul Haq Lecture by Professor Kunal Sen**

**“The Capability Approach: Origins and Current Relevance”**

This lecture will trace the origins of the capability approach, starting from the work of Amartya Sen, Mahbub Ul Haq and Martha Nussbaum, and in particular, the role of UNU-WIDER in the formation of the approach. It will discuss the operationalization of the approach in the UNDP’s Human Development Report and the practical implications of the approach. The lecture will also reflect on the current relevance of the approach, and how it remains a powerful way of thinking beyond GDP in contemporary development discourses.

Chair: Heriberto Tapia

Discussants: Prof Enrica Chiappero-Martinetti, Prof David Hulme

Horton Barn Lecture Theatre

1800-1900: Ul Haq Lecture Drinks Reception – Atrium space





## Conference Programme Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September

0800-0900

Networking and Well-being time

- Small group well-being activity – there will be a small charge of around GBP 5; Advance sign up needed.

0900 to 1030

- **Parallel sessions 2**

Up to 10 different panels each with up to 3 papers. Work on the specific allocation of papers to sessions is in progress. A detailed allocation will be available by the end of July 2025.

1030-1100

- **Coffee/Tea break**

Atrium space and Lounge space

1100-1230 Plenary session

- **Plenary: Amartya Sen Lecture by Professor FD Ferreira**

“Inherited Inequality, Meritocracy and Public Policy”

This is a talk about inequality of opportunity and a closely related concept: inherited inequality. It proceeds in five steps. First, it reviews the dominant economic model of inequality of opportunity, including applications to optimal allocations and measurement. Second, it dispenses with two epistemically and normatively demanding assumptions that underlie the model and defines the closely related concept of inherited inequality. Although in practical terms the two are very similar, the latter rests on simpler, less demanding – and thus more solid – normative foundations. Third, it reviews recent advances in the measurement of inequality of opportunity and inherited inequality, focusing on data-driven solutions to model specification challenges. These methods are illustrated using UK data from 2009 to 2019.

Chair: Professor Des Gasper

Discussants: Prof Jaya Krishna Kumar, Prof Sabina Alkire (tbc)

Horton Barn Lecture Theatre

1230-1330

- **Sandwich lunch**

Richmond Atrium space/ Norcroft Lounge

1330-1400

- Networking/ Poster presentations  
Richmon Atrium/ Norcroft Lounge

1400-1530

- **Parallel sessions 3**

Up to 10 different panels each with up to 3 papers. Work on the specific allocation of papers to sessions is in progress. A detailed allocation will be available by the end of July 2025.

1530-1600

- **Coffee/Tea break**  
Atrium space and Lounge space

1600-1800

- **Plenary: Distinguished lecture by Prof Lewis R Gordon**

**“The Capability Approach and Africana philosophy: Decolonising freedoms”  
(tbc)**

Chair: Prof Melani Walker

Discussants: Prof Shailaja Fennell, and Mika

Horton Barn Lecture Theatre

1800-1900

- Drinks reception, networking and Poster presentation  
Norcroft Lounge and Norcroft Auditorium

1900-2130

- Conference dinner in Richmond Atrium



## Conference Programme Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September

0800-0900

Networking and Well-being time

- Small group well-being activity – there will be a small charge of around GBP 5; Advance sign-up needed.

0900 to 1030

- **Parallel sessions 4**

Up to 10 different panels each with up to 3 papers. Work on the specific allocation of papers to sessions is in progress. A detailed allocation will be available by the end of July 2025.

1030-1100

- **Coffee/Tea break**

Atrium space and Lounge space

1100-1230 Plenary session

- **Invited plenary panel: ‘Born in Bradford’ – Prof John Wright and Prof Kate Pickett**

Born in Bradford is a multi-ethnic cohort study that recruited 12,453 women with 13,776 pregnancies between 2007 and 2011. These children and families are part of the longitudinal study through a partnership between NHS, the City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council and all other relevant service providers. “...The success of BiB has led to cities across the UK asking Bradford how they can set up their very own BiB. We have established a national network of birth cohort studies called Born and Brad in (BaBi) that has rolled out our ground-breaking model to Leeds, Wakefield, Doncaster, Hull, Manchester and London.”

Chair: Professor Meera Tiwary

Discussants: Prof Sreedhar Venkatapuram (tbc), Dr Sasha Ban

Horton Barn Lecture Theatre

1230-1330

- **Sandwich lunch**

Richmond Atrium space/ Norcroft Lounge

1330-1400

- Networking/ Poster presentations

1400-1530

- **Parallel sessions 5**

Up to 10 different panels each with up to 3 papers. Work on the specific allocation of papers to sessions is in progress. A detailed allocation will be available by the end of July 2025.

1530-1600

- **Coffee/Tea break**

Atrium space and Lounge space

1600-1800

- **Plenary: Martha Nussbaum Lecture by Professor Laura Valentini**

**“Personal sovereignty, human flourishing, and institutions”**

Most contemporary liberal theorists hold that we each possess a domain of personal sovereignty. This is a domain in which the normative status of others’ actions lies within our control. For example, whether someone is *allowed* to touch me or take my property is up to me: I am “sovereign” over these matters. And if my sovereignty is not honoured—e.g., I am touched without consent, or my property is not returned despite my asking it back—I am morally wronged. My talk focuses on personal sovereignty so understood, and explores two aspects of it: one *axiological* (to do with its value), the other *ontological* (to do with its existence conditions).

Chair: Prof Elaine Unter-Halter

Discussants: Prof Martha Nussbaum, Prof Sandra Boni

Horton Barn Lecture Theatre

1800-1900

- Networking and Poster presentation  
Norcroft Lounge and Norcroft Auditorium

## **Conference Programme Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September**

0800-0900

Networking and Well-being time

- Small group well-being activity – there will be a small charge of around GBP 5; Advance sign-up needed.

0900 to 1030

- **Parallel sessions 6**

Up to 10 different panels each with up to 3 papers. Work on the specific allocation of papers to sessions is in progress. A detailed allocation will be available by the end of July 2025.

1030-1100

- **Coffee/Tea break**

Atrium space and Lounge space

1100-1230 Plenary session

- **HDCA members meeting and Presidential address by Professor Enrica Chiappero-Martinetti**

Chair: Professor Jay Drydyk

Discussants: Prof Neil Stoll and Prof Eva Kipnis

Horton Barn Lecture Theatre

1230-1330

- **Sandwich lunch**

Richmond Atrium space/ Norcroft Lounge

1330-1500

- **A special plenary panel: Understanding our world through peace studies- 'The Bradford take'**

A panel discussion with Bradford veterans Prof Paul Rogers, Prof Tom Woodhouse, Prof Fiona Macaulay and future leaders Dr Becky Alexis-Martin, Dr Clara Voyvodic, Dr Sudhir Selvaraj – chaired by Prof PB Anand

1500-1530

Networking

1530 – 2000

Post-conference activity: A visit to historic Halifax Minster, Piece Hall and dinner at own cost

Networking continues



**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September- Virtual conference**

0900 – Start of the virtual conference

