

The ongoing conflicts in Ukraine, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Syria, and Afghanistan, to name a few, coupled with small- and large-scale climate change impacts (e.g., seasonal variability, extreme events, and long-term changing conditions) can potentially seriously affect human health, well-being, livelihoods, and social systems. Moreover, the effects of these events can be exacerbated when climate hazards are compounded by endemic conflict.

However, little is known about: 1) how conflict and climate change would affect population trends and consequently future population size and structures, and 2) how conflict might exacerbate and/or mediate the impacts of climate change on population processes. There is scarce literature on the mechanisms and the extent to which conflict and climate change affect and will affect demographic outcomes and whether they will drive an increase or a decline in fertility, mortality, and migration. If indeed climate change does influence demographic behaviour, the assumption that there will be no conflict and climate impacts on demographic outcomes is highly problematic and not realistic and the projections of future population trends need to be revisited. To date, none of the existing global population projections have factored in the possible consequences and associated discontinuities that may result from conflict and climate change.

The *IUSSP Scientific Panel on Population dynamics under global conflict and climate change* aims at advancing the understanding on the mechanisms and the extent to which conflict and climate change (will) affect demographic outcomes including fertility, mortality, and migration, and consequently future population dynamics. Moreover, it will explore how the impacts of conflict and climate change vary by population subgroups. In doing so, this IUSSP panel will advance our knowledge on the potential impact of conflict and climate change on population dynamics. It will thus contribute to the understanding of changing drivers of population trends and advancing population projections.

Operationally, the panel will organize several activities aiming at (i) providing researchers with theoretical and analytical tools and skills to study the climate change-conflict nexus and population dynamics and (ii) putting together scholars from all over the world to foster discussion and exchange of ideas on one of the most pressing issues of our time.

Planned activities

- 1) Hybrid conferences, e.g., Wittgenstein Centre Conference 2022, Vienna, November 2022: Population and Climate Change - The Defining Relationship of the 21st Century
- 2) In-person training workshops on data linkages, analysis, and methods relevant for research on the impact of conflict and climate change on population dynamics. The workshops are planned in conjunction with various regional conferences.
- 3) Webinars