

A fifth trend is the need for a more profound understanding of what is needed for personal security and how conflict disrupts this for people who lack protection under international law. Security guarantees must be built into any international peace mission. There are also different security needs for men, women and children. Ending the fighting and restoring calm does not necessarily increase security. For example, there is more violent crime in El Salvador now than during the war. Crime can be as pervasive a source of insecurity as civil conflict. This is one of the primary reasons for the emphasis on security sector reform.

Small concluded by arguing that there has been and needs to be a shift from looking at peacebuilding as a discrete activity to a broader conception of human security, a need to put individuals, and not sovereign states, at the heart of international relations. This is the future direction that peacebuilding must take.