

The Peace Formula

Economic forces play a major role in the outbreak and perpetuation of violence, but they also hold the key for positive change. Using a nontechnical and accessible style, *The Peace Formula* attacks a series of misconceptions about how economics has been used to foster peace. In place of these misconceptions, this book draws on rich historical anecdotes and cutting-edge academic evidence to outline the “peace formula” – a set of key policies that are crucial ingredients for curbing armed conflict and achieving a transition to lasting peace and prosperity. These policies include providing jobs (work), ensuring democratic participation (voice), and guaranteeing the security and basic functions of the state (warranties). Investigating specific political institutions and economic policies, this book provides the first easily accessible synthesis of this work and explains how “smart idealism” can help us get the incentives of our leaders right. The stakes could hardly be higher.

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The Peace Formula

Voice, Work and Warranties,
Not Violence

DOMINIC ROHNER

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*This book is dedicated to my parents, Brigitte and Fridolin,
as well as to my wife Géraldine, and my children Camille,
Nicolas and Sophie.*

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For a tree to grow, it requires basically three ingredients, a seed, sunshine and rain. For academic research and books, it may not be very different. You need ideas (the seeds), fruitful discussions and encouragement from colleagues, coauthors and friends (the sunshine) and constructive critique from referees and unconvinced peers (the rain), nudging you to improve the argument and step up the empirical evidence. In what follows, let me focus on the sunshine: the numerous peers who have supported and encouraged me over the last twenty years, during which much of my research has focused on explaining the drivers and consequences of armed conflicts.

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