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THE ECONOMICS OF CONFLICT AND PEACE

History and Applications

Shikha Basnet Silwal Washington and Lee University

Charles H. Anderton College of the Holy Cross

Jurgen Brauer Chulalongkorn University

Christopher J. Coyne George Mason University

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> Jurgen Brauer Chulalongkorn University

> Christopher J. Coyne George Mason University

J. Paul Dunne University of Cape Town

Author for correspondence: Shikha Basnet Silwal, silwals@wlu.edu

Abstract: Written for an audience of students, general readers, and economists alike, this Element is a primer on the field of the economics of conflict and peace. It offers a reasonably comprehensive, systematic, and detailed overview – even if in broad strokes – of the field's orthodox and heterodox history of thought and current theories and evidence. The authors view this Element as a baseline account on which to build a future, separate, and more fully developed work on the economics of peace, economic growth, and human development. Altogether, the Element (a) contextualizes the field of conflict and peace economics, (b) outlines its history of thought, (c) highlights examples of current theoretical and empirical scholarship in the field, and (d) maps trajectories for further research.

Keywords: history of thought, conflict economics, peace economics, military economics, security economics

JEL classifications: B1, D74, O1, F50, H56

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